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FURTHER REPORTAGE ON OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Amendment of Charter Proposed

PY150250 Paris AFP in Spanish 0137 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Brasilia, 14 Nov (AFP) -- Upon participating in the 14th OAS General Assembly, Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica today asked here that Article 8 of the OAS Charter be deleted. Article 8 bars access to the OAS to those countries that have border disputes with OAS member countries, as is the case with Belize and Guyana. Trinidadian and Tobagan Foreign Minister Basil Ince also asked that the OAS be invigorated by a more equitable distribution of OAS officials among the different states of the region.

After asking for the deletion of Article 8 from the OAS Charter, Jamaican Foreign Minister Oswald Harding expressed his concern over the absence of results commensurate with the efforts made by the standing council, which is charged with reviewing that matter. [Quotation marks as received]

Falklands Resolution Approved

PY152031 Paris AFP in Spanish 1633 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 15 Nov (AFP) -- By a 21 to 1 vote, the general commission of the 14th OAS General Assembly today approved in Brasilia a draft resolution exhorting the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to resume the negotiations in search of a peaceful solution to the dispute of sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands. Six of the 31 [numbers as received] OAS members abstained.

The resolution must be approved by the plenary session of the 14th OAS General Assembly, due to end on 17 November. It was sponsored by the delegations of Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela. The United States and Barbados voted for the resolution.

The delegates of Haiti, one of the sponsors of the resolution, Grenada, and Jamaica were absent. While Dominica voted against it, the Bahamas, St Christopher-Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, St Vincent and the Grenadines, St Lucia, and Antigua and Barbuda abstained.

Some Latin American delegates recommended that a copy of the resolution be sent to the British Government after it is approved by the plenary session of the 14th OAS General Assembly.

Chile Rejects OAS Sea Issue Role

PY151928 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Brasilia -- The Chilean delegation to the OAS Assembly today rejected a proposal endorsed by six countries to have the Bolivian sea outlet issue discussed within the OAS. Chile voted against this proposal. Chilean OAS Ambassador Monica Madariaga announced this position in a speech she delivered at noon today at a plenary session of the 14th OAS Assembly. Earlier, Bolivian Foreign Minister Gustavo Fernandez referred to number of times Bolivia has taken the Bolivian sea outlet issue to the OAS.

For her part, Madariaga said that during the past five OAS General Assemblies, Chile has consistently denied the OAS jurisdiction to pass judgment on issues falling entirely within the domestic jurisdiction of each state.

Madariaga noted that the Bolivian delegation again regarded its desire to obtain an outlet to the Pacific Ocean as a right. She said: I must note once again that there is a treaty which once and for all established border demarcation lines between Chile and Bolivia. There are no problems pending between the two countries concerning either territories or borders. Chile fully exercises its rights over its territory, not only by virtue of a treaty but because its entire territory is populated by Chileans.

Grenadian Delegate on Foreign Troops

PY151930 Paris AFP in Spanish 1459 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Brasilia, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Albert Xavier, chief of the Grenadian delegation to the 14th OAS General Assembly, has said that he wanted to halt the speculation about the presence of foreign troops in his country. Xavier said that there are now 431 foreign security and police personnel in Grenada, including 240 from the United States, 49 from Jamaica, and 132 from Barbados, St Lucia, Dominica, and St Vincent. He noted that they remain in Grenada at the special invitation of the governor general, who is the only constitutional authority on the island.

Xavier siad the Grenadian people were fortunate to have their friends and neighbors save them in October last year from worse upheavals, since the deadly weapons of the then ruling military revolutionary gang were aimed at them.

Xavier said that in 2 weeks, on 3 December, Grenadians will again exercise the divine, constitutional right to vote after 8 years. Our democratic liberties were violated for 4 and 1/2 years. This was perhaps the most damaging experience we endured during the 1979-1983 period, Xavier said. We view that period, Xavier said, as a period of radicalization, as a time of flirting with an ideology which is foreign to our people. We are now looking forward to a time of realism. This will logically be possible only if our economy begins to grow, Xavier said.

Grenada was invaded by a U.S.-Caribbean task force in October last year in the wake of a palace coup which claimed the lives of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and some of his aides. In 1979 Bishop had overthrown the authoritarian government of Eric Gairy and had set up a socialist revolutionary government.

Uruyuayan Note on Bolivia Decree

PY151935 Montevido EL DIA in Spanish 7 Nov 84 p 9

[Uruguayan Ministry of Foreign Relations communique; date not given]

[Text] In the face of various rumors published by the press concerning the position adopted by Uruguay in the extraordinary session of the OAS permanent council on 26 October 1984 about the Bolivian situation (416-589-84), the Uruguayan Foreign Ministry wishes to state the following:

1. Contrary to some press reports, Uruguary did not vote against the decree in support of the democratic stability of Bolivia, but, consistent with its traditional position of respecting the principle of nonintervention, Uruguay did not participate in the extraordinary session that adopted the resolution. Uruguay believes that the simple consideration of a resolution such as the one which was approved, inspired by the internal political situation of Bolivia which is affected by a conflict between its executive and legislative branches, implies adopting a position in this respect, independently of its contents, and against the principles of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of an OAS member, thus establishing a deplorable precedent in the practice of the organization.

2. It is legally and politically inadmissible that the OAS should directly or indirectly adopt a position on the internal policy of its members, and this decree may be considered as favoring one of the state branches in conflict to the detriment of the other.

3. This is why the Uruguayan Foreign Ministry has instructed its permanent representative to the OAS to express the following: Uruguay did not participate in the extraordinary session because its government believes that the simple consideration of a resolution such as the one which was approved, especially at a moment when a well-known conflict between two state branches in Bolivia is taking place, harms the principle of nonintervention in domestic affairs of OAS members.

4. It is inadmissible that, against its strongest traditions, Uruguay should express itself in opposition to the democratic stability of Bolivia, which is based, as is known, on the sovereign will of the Bolivian people, but to do so in this manner would be to override an OAS position that is contrary to the principles and regulations of international right.

5. Our republic, which has remained faithful to international principles ever since its independence, ratifies once again the importance and value of these principles which, if strictly obeyed, in Uruguay's belief, can guarantee respect of state sovereignty and the maintenance of international peace and security.

Panama's Cardoze Speaks

PA152221 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 15 Nov 84 pp 1, A 16, C 3, C 16

[Speech by Panamanian Foreign Minister Fernando Cardoze Fabrega at the 14th OAS General Assembly in Brasilia, on 14 November]

[Test] One month after the installation of a new Panamanian Government, I am honored to outline my country's foreign policy guidelines at the 14th OAS General Assembly within the context of the international and regional crisis.

The Contadora process and the Central American problem have reached a new crossroads, and the new Panamanian Government's policy is likely to have an influence on the solutions to be adopted following the pacification efforts.

The foreign debt burden is a straitjacket for the most realistic and creative planners of our public administrations.

The deadline for the Panama Canal to be turned over entirely to Panamanians and for Paname to become the sole administrator, responsible for the efficient and continuous operation of the waterway, is only a little over 15 years away. This period of time is pressingly short for Panama to achieve the necessary social transformations and changes in mental attitudes to guarantee that transit through an entirely Panamanian Canal can be clearly and permanently guaranteed to all countries, including those countries whose economies are directly linked to the canal's operation. Security, viability, and uninterrupted free traffic through the canal is also of great importance for Latin America, and the new Panamanian Government's policy will be an important factor in determining what the Panama Canal will be by the year 2000.

The life and stability of democratic institutions and free enterprise are threatened by the region's uncertainties and conflicts. The policy of the new government will undoubtedly have an influence on the conclusions that other peoples will arrive at regarding the strength, suitability, and possibilities for democracy to survive in Panama and Central America.

My speech will be centered mainly on these four points.

First of all, I comply with the honorable mandate of transmitting a message of proven friendship, invariable confraternity, and profound solidarity with the aspirations and shared goals from Panamanian President Nicolas Ardito Barletta to the Brazilian Government and people, who have given us their hospitality. I also extend the same message to all the governments and peoples of America through the delegations of the other countries represented here.

I am also pleased to congratulate the chairman of this meeting on behalf of the Panamanian delegation for his fitting election to preside over this period of sessions. We wish him success in carrying out his duties, and we are sure that the results of this meeting will be characterized by his capability and sense of justice. I also express our satisfaction over the election of Joao Clemente Baena Soares as OAS secretary general, sending him warm and sincere greetings.

The Panamanian delegation welcomes St Christopher-Nevis and reiterates our friendship. Panama reaffirms its hope that in the near future a formula of brotherhood and solidarity will be found to enable the Republic of Bolivia to satisfy its legitimate aspiration of having free and sovereign access to a Bolivian maritime port.

Panama reiterates its support for the Republic of Argentina's initiative aimed at recovering peacefully the effective exercise of its legitimate sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, as well as over the South Georgia and South Sandwich islands, through diplomatic negotiations with the U.K. Panama reiterates its firm adherence to the Quito Declaration on Drug Trafficking and its unwavering determination to contribute to stopping this traffic, and at the same time expresses its hope that the participants in this assembly will commit themselves to join in a common struggle against this terrible plague on our continent, together with other governments in the world who share our concern and our position in this regard.

Panama reiterates its full adherence to the letter and spirit of the declaration signed by the SELA members, on 1 December 1981. It also reiterates the 10th SELA Ministerial Council's observations about the increasingly marked inequalities and greater differences existing between the economies of the Latin American countries and the U.S. economy. This assembly provides us with a new opportunity to revise the multilateral positions in the areas of cooperation and dialogue. Panama reiterates to this assembly that the political ties among the sister nations of Latin America need to be strengthened through mechanisms and actions that will aid in the peaceful negotiation and and solution of the current conflicts between some fraternal countries of the continent as well as any conflict that might emerge.

The new Panamanian Govenment expresses here its satisfaction on viewing the fruits of the efforts that the Latin American nations have undertaken in the path toward mutual understanding, as can be seen in the recent achievement of the agreement between Chile and Argentina on the Beagle Channel. This agreement is a clear example of what can be achieved through direct and peaceful dialogue and negotiations to solve problems and controversies between states.

Let us now see what is taking place in Contadora, what the Contadora Group efforts have achieved, and what the new Panamanian Government's position is on the Contadora process. What, in fact, is the Contadora Group? It is a mediating group that, by definition, cannot impose conditions on the parties. Its mission is limited to suggesting formulas of understanding so as to help the parties find points of agreement and emphasize those points. However, in order to be effective, the mediator must be impartial and must inspire confidence among all the conflicting parties. If the mediator losses the ability to speak with the parties, the mediation is useless.

As the international community is aware, the Contadora Group has promoted a peaceful and negotiated solution to the Central American conflict that has culminated with the drafting of the Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America. The document contains important political, security, and socioeconomic commitments to establish a stable and lasting peace on the Central American isthmus and verification and control mechanisms to guarantee its faithful fulfillment. Moreover, it contains an additional protocol that all countries with ties or interests in the region would sign to contribute to the objectives of the document. The revised version of the document is the result of many consultations and exchanges with the Central American governments and constitutes a significant effort aimed at conciliating and strengthening political understandings in order to guarantee regional peace and security.

On 7 September the Contadora Group foreign ministers presented this document to the five Central American heads of state in the hope that, once the appropriate adjustments are made, the five Central American governments will sign the document. The joint communique issued that day established 15 October as the deadline for the Central American governments to issue an opinion on the revised version of the document. After receiving the observations and comments, the Contadora Group held a meeting at the deputy foreign minister level to analyze and draft formulas of solution acceptable to the parties. We hope that this new conciliating effort will lead to the acceptance and final approval of the five Central American governments.

The new Panamanian Government reaffirms the position held by Panama since the formation of the Contadora Group, and it will intensify its efforts to help effective and lasting peace reign again in the region. But as mediators, even if we play our role with the utmost determination and dedication, we are fully aware that without the political will to reach an understanding on the part of the Central American states and those countries with important ties and interests in the area, Contadora will become an outdated rhetorical element in international forums and will again be used exclusively in reference to a Panamanian island in the Pacific. Panama, therefore, exhorts the parties involved in the conflict to reach agreements, in the understanding that the achievement of peace in Central America is not the responsibility of the Contadora Group but of the five Central American governments, as well as that of the governments that maintain interests and ties in the area, which can substantially help decrease tensions and make peace flourish again.

The Panamanian people's aspirations and the problems they face in their desire to achieve social progress are common to those of the rest of the Latin American peoples. Economic stagnation, poverty, neglect, frustration, and hopelessness are, unfortunately, a common denominator for broad sectors of the Latin American peoples. In order to resovle these problems, we must define correctly the issues connected with international trade, the inequality of exchange terms, and the huge foreign debt of all our countries. This debt oppresses us with the weight of an increasingly large service that obligates resources which are essential to satisfy the minimal aspirations of our peoples and creates social difficulties that nourish unrest, violence, and conflict.

At present, the foreign debt service represents an onerous burden for the Latin American countries, and Panama is no exception. We acknowledge our obligation and will fulfill our commitments, but we ask our creditors for their cooperation, in the understanding that arrangements reached to their satisfaction and ours will benefit us all, as they favor the maintenance of peace and security in our part of the world, which is vital to international communications.

Duly weighing all the implications it entails and the needs that make it imperative, Panama is considering the positive formulation of an effective negotiation mechanism for the debt service. Panama agrees that, depanding on individual circumstances, the regional countries have the right to aspire to negotiate the conditions for the treatment of their own debts in ways that allow them to promote once again the path of economic and social development for our peoples.

Panama firmly endorses the preparations for the next Extraordinary General Assembly on Cooperation for Development. It feels that any regional strategy for development must include the advantages that should result from cooperation among our countries, without this position in any way detracting from the importance of the foreign aid received from the developed countries and the multilateral financial organizations. An increase in the foreign aid flow toward the regional countries with the most urgent situations due to their precarious economic situation must be considered as soon as possible.

During the time that has elapsed since the Panama Canal Treaties went into effect, the Panamanian people have seen some of their just demands satisfied either completely or in part. On 1 October 1979, Panama fully recovered two-thirds of the land and water surfaces formerly under the colonial system of the former Canal Zone and of the canal operation. Since then, Panama has received new benefits, both directly and indirectly.

Important steps have been taken to fulfill the agreements made, despite the unilateral impositions included in Law 96-70, approved by the U.S. Congress on 27 September 1979, which are alien to both the letter and the spirit of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, similarly ratified by a legislative action of the U.S. Congress. Law 96-70, which unilaterally establés the rules according to which the U.S. Government must fulfill its obligations and commitments established in the treaties, strays from the agreed text and is detrimental to Panama's rights in substantive aspects.

Panama aspires to achieve the just interpretation and due fulfillment of the 1977 treaties, with an eye to guaranteeing the full exercise of Panamanian sovereignty and Panama's jurisdiction throughout the national territory, at making canal neutrality effective, and at gradually and harmoniously awaiting the day we will receive control of the interoceanic waterway in accordance with the terms agreed on.

The new Panamanian Government once again reiterates its desire to maintain friendly relations of cooperation with the United States of America at a level of political maturity in accordance with the times. We again appeal to the tradition of democratic ideals of the U.S. Government and peoples and to the understanding of other nations, so that the necessary steps will be taken to replace Law 96-70 with a law that respects the wills expressed by the two parties in the Panama Canal treaties, which were ratified by the same Congress that approved the law we are now denouncing.

The canal imposes very large responsibilities on the Panamanian Government and people, but it also grants us very special rights. Panama will fulfill its international commitments, and it acknowledges as its duty the need to be prepared before the year 2000 to manage and maintain the canal and in general render international maritime transit service through the Panama Canal for our own benefit and that of the users of this interoceanic waterway. We expect the rest of the world, especially the United States of America, to fulfill their commitments and responsibilities toward us as well.

Guaranteeing the efficient, continuous, and neutral functioning of the Panama Canal necessitates as an indispensable and unpostponable requirement the peace and prosperity of the Panamanian people. The chances for success of the Contadora Group's efforts to achieve a future marked by peace in Central America will be greater with a stable and prosperous democracy established in Panama.

The handling of Panama's foreign debt must not pose insurmountable obstacles to the achievement of that peace, the consolidation of that democracy, or the development of that prosperity.

The success of the system of free enterprise, of the Caribbean Basin Initiative, of the Jackson plan, of the aid programs for regional development sponsored by the European Community and the Far Eastern democracies will perhaps depend, to a certain extent, on the new Panamanian Government's success in its effort to strengthen Panama's democratic institutions, on its determination to speedily promote economic recovery, and on its specific measures to establish a public administration apparatus based on efficiency, honesty, and the civic will to serve. We have a past characterized by austerity, courage, abnegation, and shared struggle. In our forebearers we have living proof that civic virtures and the reputation of men of goodwill are more lasting than the ephemeral projections of power, influence, or the satisfaction derived from large fortunes.

We are now once again beginning to obtain from our own true essence the bulwarks that we can use against the infiltration of customers and mental attitudes that can gravely hinder the free determination of our own destiny, especially now, when austerity is essential in every political decision.

Along with all the nations represented here, we must also make sure that the decision-making centers of the wealthy and powerful nations that share with us democratic ideals clearly understand that ignorance, poverty, and underdevelopment in Latin America are a threat to the security and stability of their way of life. From Panama, the task is more complex, and the solution of the problems is more urgent because we have a canal that is essential to the world economy, and we must be able to guarantee to the world in the year 2000 that we are the owners and administrators of that canal.

Mr President, Messrs Ministers and Delegates of the distinguished governments of the states belonging to this organization: All of this entails enormous sacrifice, unity, work, and dedication by the Panamanian Government and people, but it also requires that other nations recognize our rights and fulfill their obligations to us. The new Panamanian Government, aware of our real possibilities, our immediate aspirations, and the cost in sacrifice and work that their achievement will demand, rises up full of faith and confidence in the face of the four great problems of the current American situation: the alternative between war and peace in Central America; the alternative between the faithful fulfillment of our foreign debt obligations and the imperative mandate to fulfill our peoples' urgent development needs; the alternative between the benefits that the Panama Canal represents for the world and the benefits it should provide to Panama; and the alternative between the consolidation of democracy through economic development and social justice and deterioration of institutions that economic stagnation and the lack of hope bring about. The new Panamanian Government has chosen a direction, and perhaps -- I stress here that I state this with the greatest humility as the younger brother speaking in a family council -- the Bolivarian dream of our own American identity and the common destiny of our nations lies in that same direction.

McComie's Reelection Celebrated

FL160138 Bridgetown CANA in English 2323 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Brasilia, Nov 15, CANA -- Ministers and diplomats from the Caribbean and Latin America, headed by Prime Minister Dr Kennedy Simmonds of St Christopher-Nevis and Dr Win Udenhout of Suriname, last night joined with Barbados Foreign Minister Louis Tull in a private celebration here of the unanimous election of Barbadian diplomat Val McComie to his second term as assistant secretary general of the Organisation of American States (OAS). A Barbados statement issued today said the function, hours after the 14th General Assembly of the OAS picked the ex-Barbados ambassador, was a get-together of figures who had come to know and admire McComie's diplomatic skills and championship of Inter-American cooperation.

The Caribbean contingent included Trinidad and Tobago Foreign Minister Basil Ince and two veterans of the Caribbean integration movement, former Chief Minister of Dominica Frank Baron, and one time Antigua and Barbuda Cabinet Minister Edmund Lake, both currently representing their countries at the OAS.

The Barbados foreign minister had earlier in the day told the General Assembly that McComie's election by acclamation to the post which he first won on a close vote in La Paz, Bolivia, in November 1979, was a victory without winner or loser. If there was a winner, it was the organisation itself which, by choosing the Caribbean diplomat as its second highest official, had demonstrated that it was truly responsive to the multi-cultural reality of the world's oldest international organisation, Tull said. Diplomats at the celebration party were unanimously of the view that McComie's win represented a major triumph for Barbados' diplomacy, the Barbados statement said. While the key element was seen as the outstanding quality of the candidate, the total solidarity of Caricom member countries, and the support of Haiti and Suriname, despite rumours of the softening of some of McComie's backing, were the factors that brought home the bacon, the statement quoted one senior Caribbean diplomat as saying.

McComie's rival for the post, the Costa Rican politician and diplomat Fernando Berrocal, had visited every Latin American capital as well as Washington in his quest for the post, but was unable in the end to breach the solid coalition which Barbados had stitched together stretching from Honduras in Central America to Chile in the southern cone, the statement added. Foreign Minister Tull was full of praise for the statemanship of his Costa Rican colleague Carlos Jose Gutierrez in withdrawing his country's candidate and calling on the General Assembly to elect McComie by acclamation. McComie, who was accompanied to last night's function by his Cuban-born wife Elia Garcia de McComie, thanked the Barbados Government for its strong support of his candidature. He begins his new term in April next year.

Anti-U.S. Demonstration

PY150055 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Text] Brasilia -- A demonstration of protest against the U.S. presence in Central America was staged today in front of the Itamaraty [Foreign Ministry] building where the 14th OAS General Assembly is being held. "Reagan, the Pirate of the Caribbean," "United States, (?Boots) Off Nicaragua," and "Nicaraguans, We Are With You," read some of the banners waved by the demonstrators. Some federal deputies also participated in the demonstration.

ANDEAN PACT OPENS 3-DAY MEETING IN LIMA

PY150218 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2312 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Lima, 14 Nov (EFE) -- The Andean Pact today opened in Lima a crucial meeting to agree on the modifications that are to reactivate and breathe new life into the political-economical integration of the five member countries. In its 39th regular meeting, under the presidency of Venezuelan Cesar Salazar, the representatives of Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela will review the draft protocol addendum that will modify the agreement. It is expected that such a modification will update the Andean Pact for a decade at least. The meeting among the five representatives is to last until Friday. Venezuelan Pedro Carmona, the coordinator of the board, the Andean Pact's technical body, today stated that it is necessary to change certain mechanisms to develop the industrial and commercial sectors in the region. Also important, Carmona stated, is the strengthening of the judicial framework of the Andean Pact, especially concerning the Andean Court of Justice [Tribunal Andino de Justicia].

GOVERNMENT TO RESPECT BEAGLE PLEBISCITE RESULT

PY152320 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 15 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- A high government source said yesterday Argentina would not sign the Beagle Channel treaty with Chile if there was a majority vote against it in the plebiscite to be held on November 25. The source said although the plebiscite would be non-binding the government would respect the opinion of the majority of the voters if they vote no and would not sign the treaty.

The source recalled when President Raul Alfonsin returned from his trip to Europe last month he said a majority no vote would be unlikely but if it should be the outcome, the government would have to return to the negotiating table. The source said the government would be satisfied if there was a turnout of 50 percent of the electorate for the plebiscite. But it would be childish to add the abstentions to the negative votes to prove a majority were opposed to the treaty because abstentions were never taken into account in ordinary elections, the source added.

Meanwhile, a dinner of 1,000 political leaders for the no vote planned for next Friday had to be postponed because the authorities of the Msgr de Andrea women's workers home where the dinner was to be held said they could not loan the premises in line with the Catholic Church's support of the treaty. Organizers of the dinner led by Centrist Alejandro Herrera sent a letter to Cardinal Juan Carlos Aramburu to complain about the decision which they described as discriminatory and encouraged by the Radical government. The dinner was to be attended by Conservative, Liberal, Justicialist, Popular Leftist, Socialist, Centrist and Nationalist leaders in what was to be the first multi-party rally opposed to the treaty.

GRINSPUN LEAVES FOR U.S. TO SEEK IMF AGREEMENT

PY151240 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0228 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 14 Nov (TELAM) -- Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun left at 2300 today for the United States. At Ezeiza International Airport Grinspun said that he will hold decisive negotiations to reach agreements with the IMF and the creditor banks. The minister said that one of his objectives is to obtain a $1.45-billion standby credit to allow the country to pay the interest due at the end of the year. He added that there is a good possibility of obtaining the credit.

SPANISH DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES FOR 4-DAY VISIT

PY151642 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1209 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Nov (TELAM) -- Spanish Defense Minister Narciso Serra arrived at 0815 at Jorge Newbery Airport for a 4-day official visit, after accepting an invitation given him in June 1984 by his counterpart Raul Borras, who met him at the military sector of the airport. The Spanish minister was met also by Lieutenant General Julio Fernandez Torres, chief of the Joint Staff; Major General Ricardo Gustavo Pianta, Army chief of staff; Rear Admiral Ruben Arosa, Navy chief of staff; and by Air Force Brigadier General Teodoro Waldner, Air Force chief of staff. On arrival Serra announced that he will meet with President Raul Alfonsin.

INDUSTRIAL UNION PROPOSES END OF PRICE CONTROLS

PY152328 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 15 Nov 84 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The Argentine Industrial Union (UIA) proposed yesterday a three-stage plan to eliminate price controls within three months without causing a significant jump in inflation, UIA President Roberto Favelevic told newsmen.

Favelevic said he and UIA Vice-President Gilberto Montagna delivered the plan to Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun during a 30-minute meeting and the minister seemed with the idea.

The first 30-day stage of the plan would allow companies operating at a loss to break even, i.e., without either making or losing money. During the second month the companies would be allowed to recover 50 percent of their traditional rate of profit, Favelevic said. The third stage would consist of a system of exchange of information between the companies and the government based on the responsibility of the companies to avoid abuses but without any prior controls, he added.

The UIA leader said Grinspun, who left for the U.S. last night, promised to pass the plan on to Domestic Trade Undersecretary Marta Mas de Magliano to study its feasibility. He added he was neither optimistic nor pessimistic on the outcome.

Favelevic said UIA was always opposed to price controls and for this reason it refused to be represented on the Price Controls Committee of the social contract, but it later relented in order to make a positive contribution to the contract. He said price controls championed by Trade Secretary Ricardo Campero had caused more bother and trouble than the advantages they had produced and it was necessary to develop a mechanism to replace them without boosting inflation. "That is the aim of our proposal," he added.

UIA was not in a position to provide an average rate of profit but it was aware cost factors in recent months had increased much more than prices and it therefore depended on each company's breakdown of costs, Favelevic said. "As we have often said, controlled industrial prices only represent a fraction of the incidence on the cost of living, which is affected more by the prices of meat and vegetables which are perishable goods," he added.

STRIKE SITUATION, UNION ELECTIONS REPORTED

PY142020 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 14 Nov 84 p 11

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN) -- Neuquen police yesterday fired tear gas into a crowd of 1,000 striking construction workers as they sang the national anthem -- the result of a wage protest that has left 12 injured, two with bullet wounds, and considerable material damage, including the destruction of Governor Felipe Sapag's personal vehicle.

Meanwhile, in the Federal Capital, the government convinced seven unions -- grouping railway, restaurant, court and power workers -- to lift their strike calls, while Labor Minister Hugo Barrionuevo began last-minute efforts to avert a 24-hour national walkout called by teachers for tomorrow.

The socio-economic contract talks continued yesterday, with government, labor and business meeting to formally announce the members of each of the 10 committees which will study contract issues.

Barrionuevo scored three personal victories by getting the four railway unions to lift a 24-hour strike set for today, the Power Workers' Federation to call off a 48-hour stoppage set to begin today, and restaurant workers to put off their 24-hour walkout. Railway workers were guaranteed a December minimum monthly wage double that of last June, while power workers backed a Ministry-issued compulsory arbitration order and restaurant union leaders agreed to study a 20-percent pay offer by employers.

National court clerks in the Federal Capital also lifted a two-day strike scheduled to have taken place today. The decision was taken after the government promised to make their 19-percent payhike given to judges retroactive to December 1983. But federal court clerks in other parts of the country are expected to continue their two-hour stoppages through tomorrow.

The 500 Tucuman policemen who barricaded themselves in last Monday returned to work after accepting a $a30,000 [peso] minimum pay offer. Over 300 construction workers in the Federal Capital took over two building sites yesterday to demand the payment of overdue wages. Workers at the meat-packing plant in Nelson, Santa Fe, ended their daily one-hour blockade of interprovince highway 11 after the government promised to act on their behalf in the pay dispute.

In union elections, the 62 Organizations -- headed by Justicialist Party Vice President Lorenzo Miguel -- won in the State Oil Workers Union (SUPE) polls as well as in Wood Industry Union elections in the Federal Capital. Diego Ibanez, head of the Justicialist Bloc in the Lower House, held onto his seat as SUPE secretary-general, defeating the Radical Juan Svoboda 12,344 to 9,421 (provisional figures). Ministry overseers and police yesterday continued the vote count in the Buenos Aires Hospital Workers Union (ATSA), a day after some 90 ballot boxes were burned in a still mysterious fire. Blue List leaders, now in control of ATSA, suggested Movement Toward Socialism (MAS) members who belong to the oppostion Orange List set the fire. The MAS flatly denied the charges and instead implicated Blue leaders.

MARITIME SECRETARIAT CONCERNED BY FOREIGN FISHING

PY151900 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] The secretary of the Maritime Interest Secretariat has said that the fishing being carried out by foreign vessels operating in the exclusion zone of the South Atlantic is very harmful. Rodolfo Garcia Leyenda said in Mar del Plata that about 150 vessels are constantly fishing, thus causing depletion of stock.

He said that fishing is being carried out in alarming proportions when compared to Argentine fish exports and that the fish is being sold in markets that Argentina is losing. He added that this is very dangerous for Argentine fishing because it involves an area of national sovereignty, and that the Argentine people must be alert to find solutions to this problem.

Garcia Leyenda also said that the effect of the depletion cannot be established by current studies but the overall exports of squid and hake are of real concern. He said that partial measures have been taken by his secretariat to help support the Argentine fishing fleet by preventing foreign vessels from operating in the south seas. He pointed out that the report on the foreign fishing vessels' activities has been made and that this is now receiving diplomatic action. [Words indistinct] but the foreign fishing vessels are depredating the area.

Regarding the flags of fishing vessels that have not been authorized in the south seas he said that they are mainly from the Soviet Union, Spain, Japan, Poland, and other Eastern European countries. He emphasized that all fishing sectors of Mar del Plata should agree on the need to make a precise diagnosis of the seriousness of the problem. The solutions are of an economic and financial nature and they sould be sought through the Economy Ministry and the Central Bank. He added: We should recall that reduction in squid fishing brought about the paralyzation of a sector that in turn created a business and social problem.

EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE PROMOTES POLITICAL DIALOGUE

PY121348 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Nov 84

[Excerpt] This week may be decisive for the life of the nation because of the important union and political meetings that will be held. It has been announced that opposition political parties represented in Congress are going to meet in response to a call made by the Catholic Church. The majority of the political parties have accepted the call made by the bishops, who sent invitations to Hugo Suarez, Oscar Zamora, Luciano Tapia, Victor Paz Estenssoro, Hernan Siles Zuazo, Jorge Colle Cueto, Luis Osio Sanjinez, the heads of the pluralist opposition and independents blocs, and the leadership of the Revolutionary Movement of the Left and the Socialist Party-One.

The Bolivian Episcopal Conference has offered the good offices of the Catholic Church to the president to promote dialogue among all the political forces represented in Congress and the top union and business organizations aimed at overcoming or easing the current critical situation affecting the country, a situation threatening the existence of the nation itself.

Report on Meetings

PY151530 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] The political dialogue called by the Catholic Church will continue at 1000 [1400 GMT] today according to the official report released last night at the conclusion of the second session that ended just before 1000 [0200 GMT]. It has been reported that the majority of the political parties attending the meeting agreed on the idea of holding general elections next year with the exception, of course, of the three government parties.

The press office of the Episcopal Conference has released a document on the conclusions of the meetings held yesterday. Due to its importance we are going to read the text of the document. It says:

The first session of the national dialogue proposed by the Catholic Church that began in the morning of 14 November discussed the document proposed by the Episcopal Conference, but so far no concrete agreements have been reached.

The session began with a speech by Msgr Luis Rodriguez, president of the Episcopal Conference, who explained the purpose of the meeting and the offer of the good offices of the church for finding solutions to the main problems affecting the country, problems that can create serious risks of confrontation. The sessions, held on 14 November, discussed the first point of the church position that admits the progressive deterioration of the democratic process and proposed actions to strengthen this process, by both the government and the political and social forces.

Msgr Luis Rodriguez said that the church initiative goes beyond temporary solutions which would not change the current situation of permanent instability. He also said that it is necessary to the state of society in order to ensure prosperity and security for the Bolivian people. The different positions that were brought up during the discussions can be described in the following manner:

A group of representatives of political parties strongly asserted that the basic reforms proposed by the church cannot be implemented, unless there is a change of government. Some parties confirmed the positions they have published in the press. Other representatives spoke for the current government remaining in power, in agreement with the Bolivian Labor Federation and other social and political organizations.

Other political representatives, in agreement with the call made by the Catholic Church, proposed a study of concrete agreements to equally commit all political parties under the present circumstances, and for the future in case a party now in opposition ever gets into power.

The church representative insisted on the need to make a difference between the issue of the continuity or permanence of the current government, which the church does not intend to discuss during the current dialogue, and the agreement that should be reached to strengthen the democratic coexistence in the country now and in the future. At this stage of the discussions the meeting was adjourned until 15 November. No agreement was reached during the first session of the dialogue. What the parties did was to explain their antagonistic positions.

The session was presided over by Msgr Luis Rodriquez, president of the Bolivian Episcopal Conference, with the participation of Msgr Alejandro Mestre, secretary general of the Episcopal Conference; and Msgr Armando Gutierrez, archbishop of Cochabamba. Priest (Jose Gramon de Morada) acted as moderator.

The political meeting proposed by the church will continue today at 1000 [1400 GMT]. Before the first session began, some politicians expressed regret that the three party heads Hernan Siles, Victor Paz, and Hugo Banzer did not attend the meeting. The Episcopal Conference explained, however, that all party leaders had been invited, but that they had decided to appoint representatives in their stead. The Socialist Party-One excused itself from the invitation made by the Episcopal Conference.

Leaders Absent

PY160100 Paris AFP in Spanish 2100 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] La Paz, 15 Nov (AFP) -- According to a reliable source in La Paz the beginning of the political dialogue proposed by the Catholic Church aimed at discussing the main problems which are besieging Bolivia has been tied to the participation of President Hernan Siles Zuazo and the main opposition leaders, Former Presidents Victor Paz Estenssoro and Hugo Banzer Suarez. Paz Estenssoro is the head of the Historical National Revolutionary Movement (MNR-H) while Banzer leads the Nationalist Democratic Alliance (ADN). The three abovementioned leaders have appointed lesser personalities as their representatives which the leaders of the six lesser parties objected to.

It has been reported that the absence of Siles Zuazo, Paz Estenssoro and Banzer Suarez could scuttle the dialogue sponsored by the Catholic bishops.

Yet another disagreement arose when the ruling coalition, Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP) has made it clear that it is under no circumstances prepared to accept the calling of elections for 1985, a prerequisite on which both the MNR-H and the ADN are insisting.

Furthermore the MNR-H has asked for the resignation of Siles Zuazo and all the members of the Congress so that power could be turned over to the Supreme Court which would call elections for next year and not for 1986 as initially scheduled.

DEBT NEGOTIATIONS WITH IMF, BANKS CONTINUING

PY141508 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Text] IFM economists have started collecting reports in Brasilia for the drafting of the seventh letter of intent. In Washington, Finance Minister Ernane Galveas and Central Bank President Celso Pastore have met for more than 8 hours with IMF directors, and today they will be in New york for the first round of negotiations with the creditor banks.

Galveas wants lower interest rates and longer terms for repaying $58-billion in loans coming due in the next 5 years. Nikolauss Senn, from the Union Bank of Switzerland, said in Brasilia that this term is too long. However, presidential candidate Tancredo Neves promised the Swiss banker that he will honor every commitment assumed by the current government, including the foreign debt.

NEVES FORESEES NO PROBLEM WITH MILITARY

PY151635 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 14 Nov 84 p 6

[Excerpt] Brasilia -- Democratic Alliance Candidate Tancredo Neves stated yesterday in an interview granted to an Argentine reporter that, unlike Argentina, Brazil is not having a problem with the military, which is even showing understanding for the transition period from an authoritarian to a democratic regime.

Neves said to Brazilian journalists that there is nothing to fear regarding possible changes in the rules of the game, especially since the president of the Republic has confirmed his position of being opposed to any constitutional amendment.

This is the time for cooperation to strengthen the democratic process, and not to encourage the rumors circulating, whose sole objective is to destabilize the democratic process, which is in no one's interest, he stated.

PRC SEEKS INCREASED COOPERATION IN METALLURGY

PY140152 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Today in Brasilia, Industry and Commerce Minister Murilo Badaro received a PRC mission headed by PRC Metallurgical Industry Minister Li Dongye. There are chances of increasing Brazilian-PRC trade in the metallurgical field. The PRC minister noted that his country is interested in strengthening the cooperation between the two countries in the pig iron field and the marketing of steel sheets, as long as Brazil offers reasonable and competitive prices.

This year the PRC purchased (?about) 23 percent of Brazil's pig iron production. The PRC purchased a total of 340,000 tons worth $36.8 million.

POLICE ARREST 1,000 IN LA VICTORIA RAID

PY151442 Paris AFP in Spanish 1426 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Santiago, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Witnesses and spokesmen of the Catholic Church have reported that at least 1,000 people were arrested today in Santiago during a raid in the poor district of La Victoria. The operation was carried out by a combined force of well-armed soldiers and policemen with the support of military vehicles, helicopters, and small tanks.

Detainees Held in Stadium

PY151840 Paris AFP in Spanish 1532 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Santiago, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Witnesses and Catholic Church sources have reported that thousands of persons detained during a raid today in a poor neighborhood in Santiago are being kept in an abandoned stadium near the downtown sector of the city. The raided neighborhood, called La Victoria, and the abandoned stadium were still cordoned off by policy agents and military troops at 1200 local time, 7 hours after the operation began. The government also barred reporters, but AFP correspondents were able to see that at least 1,000 persons were taken to the stadium, around which Army troops in combat gear have been deployed. Other reliable witnesses and church sources stated that the number of persons taken to the stadium by noon amounts to 2,000 including youths wearing school uniforms.

La Victoria, one of the centers of continuous popular demonstrations against President Augusto Pinochet's government, was surrounded early in the morning, and through loudspeakers the people were told to remain in their homes. Even the parish priest, French citizen Pierre Dubois, was confined to his church, where 70 days ago French priest Andre Jarlan was murdered in an incident which involved members of the Carabineros police. A jeep parked near the parish church and approximately 100 Army buses and light tanks, some with large-caliber machine guns in their turrets, were seen in the inner streets and passageways of the neighborhood. Two helicopters flew over the entire sector, [words indistinct]. Many eyewitnesses reported [words indistinct] deployed armed hooded civilians.

Those who were not considered suspect and who were finally set free reported that they were treated violently and that some of the men were beaten with clubs, while other policemen turned everything in the houses upside down. Another person complained: They cut the mattress of my bed to bits. A third person reported that the mistreatment used in the beginning of the raid was repeated in the stadium at the slightest sign of rebellion.

The government has not released any report, and the radio and television stations did not report anything on the events because of the censor under the curfew enforced throughout the country since 6 November. In similar raids carried out at the end of October and at the beginning of November in other poor neighborhoods in the suburbs, several thousand people in Santiago were checked and 359 were banished to the distant town of Pisagua in the northern desert for being antisocial.

Action Termed 'Inspection Operation'

PY151830 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Minister Secretary General of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra has reported on an inspection operation conducted at the La Victoria neighborhood.

Cuadra said the results of this operation are quite good from the standpoint of security. He made it clear that the operation should not be considered a raid since it was just an inspection operation.

[Begin recording] I wouldn't call it a raid but rather an inspection operation which is similar to the one undertaken last Saturday at the Raul Silva Henriquez camp but which took longer because the La Victoria neighborhood is larger. This operation is yielding quite good results from the standpoint of security and order. [end recording]

Cuadra also emphasized the valuable cooperation the La Victoria people, especially the women, have given their operation.

[Begin recording] The people themselves, inhabitants of the area, have given us information which allowed us to expedite our work. This is important. [end recording]

'ARMED CIVILIANS' RAID AD HEADQUARTERS, 1 DETAINED

PY151652 Paris AFP in Spanish 1626 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Armed civilians, apparently members of the Chilean police, today raided the headquarters of the Democratic Alliance (AD), the most important force opposing the military regime of President Augusto Pinochet, said AD spokesmen. Ricardo Lagos, AD president, lawyer, and socialist economist, was not in his office located in downtown Santiago. The raiders seized documents and detained leftist member Martin Urbina. The spokesman said that other members of Lagos' office were released after a brief interrogation.

MINISTER REPORTS ON UNIVERSITY SITUATION

PY151313 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The cabinet has discussed the overall national situation 1 week after the imposition of the state of siege, Minister Secretary of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra announced at the end of the cabinet meeting. In a cabinet meeting chaired by President Pinochet that lasted nearly 1 hour and 45 minutes, the ministers of interior, education, finance, and secretary of government gave briefings on their respective areas. Cuadra said that the government decided to release daily reports through the National Social Communications Directorate to provide the media with an adequate, balanced supply of information to meet their requirements to keep the public informed. He said that a flexible criterion will be followed concerning the content and frequency of these reports. Commenting on the briefing given by the education minister at the cabinet meeting, Cuadra said the minister had given some information about recent university events.

[Begin recording] In fact, the education minister gave some information about events which took place yesterday at some universities. In general terms, the university situation throughout the country is completely normal. Students are about to complete their school year and some have already started the final examination period. There were two isolated cases yesterday: namely, a small meeting held in the northern (?sector) of the University of Chile, and another meeting held in the Oriente Campus of the Catholic University, where a small group of students burned a U.S. flag. We have received a detailed report on these events, and we have taken note of them and assessed their political significance under the state of siege. [end recording]

Cuadra said he will issue a report later on the number of students detained, and about more possible banishments.

EIGHT BANISHED AFTER CATHEDRAL DEMONSTRATION

PY151348 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] The intendant of the eighth region has reported through the government regional secretariat that eight persons detained in the eighth region have been banished to townships in the northern party of the country. By Decree No 4927, which was released last night, the Interior Ministry ordered the banishment of eight persons detained last week for participating in an unauthorized public demonstration outside the cathedral of Concepcion. The following is the list of the banished persons with their respective banishment points: Marcel Cerda (Almonazigue), to Huara; Ivan Parra Mora, to Huara; Juan Perez Gonzalez, to Camina; Luis Campos Pedreros, to Camina; Luis Figueroa Escobar, to Mamina; Oscar Duarte Duarte, to Mamina; Pedro Narajo Silva, to Pozo Almonte; and Miguel Acuna (Anabalon), to Pozo Almonte.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 0131 GMT on 15 November reports: "The banished persons, who were arrested along with 20 others, were celebrating the first anniversary of the death of worker Sebastian Acevedo, who burned himself to death outside a church to call attention to the case of his daughter who had been detained by President Augusto Pinochet's secret police. Marcel Cerda, provincial leader of the opposition Democratic Alliance coalition, is among the eight banished persons."]

32 POLITICAL PARTY UNION MEMBERS BANISHED

PY151640 Paris AFP in Spanish 1516 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Officials have reported that the military government of Chile today ordered the banishment of 32 members of political and union organizations to faraway towns in the regions of Chilow and Aysen, 1,500 km south of Santiago. Those banished include the members of the Socialist Bloc Luis Alvarado Constenla, Jaime Cataldo Uribe, and Mario del Valle who were arrested in this capital last week, when the offices of this political coalition were raided after the state of siege was imposed. The group of banished individuals also include several activists of the leftist Popular Democratic Movement and the El Surco Peasant Confederation. The headquarters of these organizations also were raided in Santiago.

BRIEFS

NEW AUSTRIAN, HAITIAN AMBASSADORS -- During separate ceremonies yesterday President Augusto Pinochet received the credentials of Harald Kreid, new Austrian ambassador, and of Max Jadotte, new Haitian ambassador, to Chile. [Summary] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 25 Oct 84 p C 3 PY]

VEHICLE PRODUCTION -- According to the Production Development Corporation, during the period January-September Chile produced a total of 4,413 vehicles, which represents an increase of 39.7 percent over the production during the same period last year. [Summary] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 2 Nov 84 p C5 PY]

TERAN VISITS ITALY, DISCUSSES AID, DEBT

PM131329 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 25 Oct 84 p 9

["S. T." report: "Ecuador Asks Italy for More Cooperation"]

[Text] Rome -- The Latin American countries are stepping up their friendly pressure for Italy not to limit its cooperation only to Africa, but to extend it to the Latin American world. "It would be right if, in its dialogue with the less developed countries, Italy were to regard the Atlantic not as an ocean which divides but as a lake which unites. The North-South approach must be transverse as well as longitudinal," we were told by Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Edgar Teran following his brief but busy meeting with [Italian Foreign Minister] Andreotti, a few hours before Argentine President Alfonsin's arrival in Rome. Teran stressed in his talks with Andreotti the foreign debt issue, assailing Ecuador and all the other Latin American countries.

"We are agreed with the other 11 Latin American countries which met in Cartagena and Mar del Plata on establishing a joint policy: The debt problem is not simply a financial one but also one of political communication. Those debts resulted from responsible commitments, which require not so much a policy of futile defiance and confrontation as a quest for political understandings between us, the creditor countries, the private banks, and the international credit organizations. We must also reach an understanding on this with Italy. We are also requesting help, within the sphere of bilateral relations, in achieving a better trade balance, which now stands 2-1 in favor of your country."

Does the economic situation threaten to drive many Latin American countries back to dictatorial regimes? "No, the general trend is toward civilized governments of a democratic type. It is special political conditions which, in Central America for instance, drive certain countries away from democracy. Ecuador's stance, within the context of the Contadora action, is directed toward facilitating the establishment of democratic systems as a fundamental prerequisite of peace."

SUPREME COURT JUDGES ANNOUNCE RESIGNATION

PA080038 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 7 Nov 84

[Text] Yesterday, the judges of the Supreme Court of Justice elected in 1979 issued a communique announcing their resignation. The communique states that they resign aware of their historic responsibility and with patriotic feelings, in an hour crucial to the survival of the state of law, detached from all political ties, respecting the Constitution, and in an attempt to promote dialogue between the executive and legislative branches. The judges acted upon the solution proposed by various sectors of the country, especially EL UNIVERSO and EL MERIDIANO newspapers, which suggested that the judges elected in 1979 and the lawyers appointed by the national congress to form the Supreme Court of Justice resign.

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS ACTION AGAINST GUAYAQUIL MAYOR

PA080356 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Nov 84

[Summary] "Today the Ecuadoran Government ordered the suspension of the process initiated against the mayor of Guayaquil, Abdala Bucaram, leaving the warrant for his arrest without any effect." Accordingly, the governor of Guayas proceeded to issue instructions to the head of the Guayaquil police in which, conforming to Article 6 of the Penal Code, he suspended the process initiated against Mayor Bucaram.

INTERIOR MINISTER REJECTS DOMINGO LAINO RETURN

PY132055 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 13 Nov 84 p 14

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Sabino Augusto Montanaro has confirmed his remarks to domestic and foreign press, radio, and television media that "the Interior Ministry will not allow Domingo Laino to enter the country because he is considered to be at the service of subversion and involved with clandestine organizations and terrorist groups that try to disrupt domestic peace and that pose a threat to the safety of the people and their property and to the legally constituted instititions." The interior minister was thus answering a ruling issued on 8 November 1984 by First Commercial Judge Raul Andrada Nogues on the case of Domingo Laino Versus Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro on legal protection. In the ruling, Judge Andrada Nogues requested a substantiated report on the reasons that prompted the judicial measure recently promoted by attorney Juan Manuel Benitez Florentin.

Judge Raul Andrada Nogues' request is related to the expulsion from the country of Dr Domingo Laino, top leader of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] who has filed a writ in another attempt to return to Paraguay.

POLICE CORDON OFF NANDUTI RADIO STATION

PY121151 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 12 Nov 84 p 8

[Text] Humberto Rubin, owner and director of Radio Nanduti, today told HOY that police personnel yesterday cordoned off the radio station without giving any explanations. Police personnel took over control of the area surrounding the radio station, directing pedestrian and vehicular traffic and even prohibiting parking near the station. The police did not inform the owner of Radio Nanduti of the reasons for the police operation, although it is presumed that the police came to keep watch over a meeting that Rubin was supposed to hold with former congressmen. Some drivers sounded their horns and waved white handkerchiefs in solidarity with radio Nanduti as they drove by it.

COLORADO VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS 'THREAT'

PY122250 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 12 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Ruben Stanley, second vice president of the ruling Colorado Party, has voiced his concern over the attack on Deputy Victor Chamorro Noceda and said that unknown persons have phoned his own residence warning him to be on the lookout for coming events. Stanley said that he realized that this was not a direct threat, but he feels that these telephone calls constitute a "veiled threat, because of the tone of voice which the anonymous callers used." Speaking to ULTIMA HORA, Stanley said that "this situation worries the citizenry and the Colorado Party leadership must meet to evaluate the situation and issue a communique stating its position." He ruled out that "these events could be the result of the latest party convention [at which the "youth" faction lost to the "traditionalists" because nothing happened among the Colorados after the convention. We are a party united around its leader," Stanley added.

BELAUNDE VIEWS IMF TALKS, FINANCIAL SITUATION

PY121401 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0145 GMT 12 Nov 84

[Excerpt] President Belaunde today denied that negotiations with the IMF to achieve a new agreement on refinancing the foreign debt have failed. During his Sunday press conference, the president noted that although Peruvians do not live in the best of worlds because of the crisis, we are on the path to recovery.

[Begin Belaunde recording] We are negotiating with the IMF. Our representative, Victor Miro Quezada, was in the United States last week for negotiations with the banks, and a mission is scheduled to depart for the United States by the end of the month.

Peru's situation is reflected by our reserves, which have reached an unprecedented record. Despite the fact that we should deduct the 200 billion [currency unspecified] you are alluding to, our reserves are still greater than normal.

Many millions of dollars have entered Peru in the last few days, particularly for development programs. I am satisfied with the way the financial situation is developing. I am not saying that we live in the best of worlds. No, not at all. But I believe that we are on the path to economic recovery. [end recording]

STATE OIL COMPANY, SHELL SIGN PROSPECTING CONTRACT

PY142045 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1300 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Text] After signing an agreement between the State Petroleum Agency [Petroperu] and the Shell Company, Energy and Mines Minister Juan Inchaustegui Vargas said that there are reportedly 600 million barrels of oil reserves at Madre de Dios. Considering only superficial geological studies and other technical research, it is believed that the Madre de Dios field may be a rather large oil field, he said. However, as long as no drilling is actually done, we will not know exactly if there is or is not any oil. Let's cross our fingers and wait for it to happen, the minister said.

Inchaustegui also referred to the possibility of making oil exploration laws more flexible, and added that only necessary modifications will be made to them, but always respecting the people's desires.

The most important oil prospecting contract for Peru was signed yesterday between Petroperu and Shell Prospecting and Products of Peru. The ceremony, which is very important due to the serious oil problems Peru will have to face in the next few years, took place in the Petroperu building. The signing ceremony took place at 1700, and it was presided over by the Minister of Energy and Mines Juan Inchaustegui Vargas. The executive president of Petroperu, Fernando Zuniga y Rivero, signed for his company together with the general manager of the company, Engineer Augusto Morales Zeballos. Shell General Manager Joseph (Munder Mein) and Shell President Miguel (Grao Malacosti) signed for the Shell Company. Guillermo (Garrido Lecar), deputy finance minister of the Ministry of Economy, Finance, and Commerce, signed in the name of Peru.

BELAUNDE REJECTS NEGOTIATIONS WITH SHINING PATH

PY121222 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0151 GMT 11 Nov 84

[Text] Ayacucho, 10 Nov (EFE) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry said in Ayacucho today that he does not plan to hold a dialogue with the Shining Path guerrilla group because if he did so he would not have an interloctor to talk with.

This was Belaunde's answer to a proposal made in Ayacucho by social democratic American Revolutionary Popular Alliance [APRA] leader Armando Villanueva del Campo that the mediate between the government and the extremists. Belaunde said that he respected Villanueva's opinion, but that he would not have a valid interlocutor to talk with and like on previous occasions he rejected any possibility of holding a dialogue with the Maoist organization.

In the last few weeks, Villanueva and leading national political and social figures have repeatedly offered to hold negotiations with the Shining Path, but up to now the guerrilla organization has not answered these proposals. President Belaunde visited the convulsed area twice today, first to inaugurate the first stage of the Restitucion Dam, in Huancavelica Department, and second on his way back from the ceremony.

The president stayed in Ayacucho slightly over an hour. During his stay, he visited a child care center and held in an impromptu press conference. Ayacucho is the capital of a vast region that has been subjected to Shining Path violence and Army and police antiguerrilla operations since 1980.

SHINING PATH BOMBINGS BLACK OUT LIMA

PY141047 Paris AFP in Spanish 0423 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Text] Lima, 13 Nov (AFP) -- It has been officially reported that the outage that affected a large part of the country's central region and the poor neighborhoods of northern and southern Lima from 2000 local time (0100 GMT) was caused by a terrorist attack. Members of Shining Path blew up three power pylons in Pilcomayo, Junin Department, 311 km from Lima, that provide electricity from the Mantarlo dam to the Peruvian central region.

The outage initially affected practically all of Lima and partially the downtown area, forcing people to return home in a hurry and thus creating a traffic jam. The state company Electro-Lima reported that power began to be restored at 2130 local time (0230 GMT) when repairs began.

This outage was not as bad as the one on 5 November that affected the same area for more than an hour and other parts of the region for several more hours. The outage was in the same area but not as bad as the previous one, although it did leave practically the entire region in darkness.

The attack that was perpetrated today destroyed key points of the energy network and caused blackouts in the most important points of the central region, including Ica, Huancayo, and Chimbote. The port of Callao was also affected for 1 hour.

The local police reported that during the blackout no other terrorist attacks were carried out. Those suspected of participating in the attack or who lacked identification papers were sent to the respective police precinct buildings for careful investigation. Up to now, 200 persons have been arrested. Those who are not criminals or involved in subversive activities will be released on 15 November.

GEN MEDINA: MILITARY TO OBEY CIVILIAN AUTHORITY

PY151928 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Lieutenat General Hugo Medina, commander in chief of the Army, said that neither he nor his colleagues from the other two armed services will resign their posts when the new government comes into power. General Medina made these statements after the commemoration act today on national Army day during which Vice Admiral Rodolfo Invidio announced that the Navy will submit to the government that is elected by the people on 25 November. Medina also said that if the National Party wins, the presidency will be handed over on 1 March 1985 as planned. He said the following about the electoral campaign:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Commander, will the current commanders of the Armed Forces place their resignations at the disposition of the next president who will be elected on 25 November?

[Medina] No sir.

[Reporter] Commander, General Invidio said in his speech that he promises that the members of the Army will submit to the next political power. Can that promise be made by the rest of Armed Forces?

[Medina] The minute we decided to return the government to the people, we also decided to obey civilian authority.

[Reporter] Commander, is there a concept of subordination to the democratic government among the Army members, mainly among the chief officers?

[Medina] Yes sir. There is a concept that the Armed Forces Command will be excercised by the president of the Republic, as established by the Constitution. The president will command at the top level, and the Armed Forces Commanders will administer, conduct, and instruct the forces in their charge.

[Reporter] Why will you not put your resignation at the disposition of the next president, since you just said that the president is the commander of the Armed Forces?

[Medina] I did not say that the commander of the Armed Forces is the chief of state. That is very different. I said that the president only exercises the post, which is a very different thing.

[Reporter] What is the difference, Commander?

[Medina] The difference is that the post of commander in chief of the Armed Forces is a military and professional post. And the other aspect is that the president has powers bestowed on him by the Constitution.

[Reporter] Commander, I just asked you if you were going to put your resignation as commander in chief at the disposition of the next president and you replied that you would not. Does that mean, then, that you will remain in your post as commander in chief of the Army?

[Medina] I do not know.

[Reporter] Who decides that then?

[Medina] The circumstances and the future president will decide it.

PARTIES TO ISSUE DOCUMENT ON JOINT AGREEMENT

PY140257 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The final document on the programatic agreement between the four major political parties will be disclosed on Friday, 16 November. The document will be signed by the presidential and vice-presidential candidates of the Colorado Party, Blanco Party, Civic Party, and the Broad Front.

The document will be divided into three basic points. The first one will refer to the spirit of the agreement; the second to the solutions of the national problems on which the parties have agreed and to those on which they have not agreed; and the third to the commitment to institutionalize the agreement. At the end of the meeting held by the leaders of the main political parties, we chatted with General Liber Seregni who stated:

[Begin recording] We consider this a historic event. The fact that four presidents and vice presidents, candidates for the presidency and vice presidency of the political parties taking party in these elections, will issue a joint declaration 10 days before the elections is a very important event. Under the present circumstances we deem this a historical achievement. Through this the political parties truly reveal their responsible attitude and courage at this time in which we go from a dictatorship to a democracy. [end recording]

COURT ALLOWS CANDIDATES TO TRAVEL FREELY

PY091800 Paris AFP in Spanish 1357 GMT 9 Nov 84

[Text] Montevideo, 9 Nov (AFP) -- The Supreme Military Court of Uruguay has decided to allow presidential candidates with cases pending before the military court to travel inside and outside the country. According to the National Public Relations Directorate, the resolution was adopted to permit free political campaigning prior to the general elections on 25 November.

The only presidential candidate in that situation is Alberto Zumaran, the candidate for the traditional Blanco (National) Party, who some weeks ago was forbidden to travel to Rio de Janeiro for the meeting of the Socialist International. Zumaran later traveled to Brazil and Argentina, but he had to obtain a special permit. Zumaran had been indicted in 1982 for a speech he made during a meeting of his party.

POLL SHOWS BLANCOS LEADING IN CAPITAL

PY091823 Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Nov 84

[All figures as heard]

[Text] The National [Blanco] Party heads the poll carried out by El Espectador in the six zones into which Montevideo has been divided. The results of the poll taken between Monday, 29 October and Friday, 2 November is as follows: Blanco Party, 23.66 percent: Broad Front, 31.33 percent; Colorado Party, 27.33 percent: Civic Union, 2.66 percent, while the number of undecided persons has dropped to 6 percent.

Within the National Party, Zumaran obtained 91.83 percent, Paysse, 4.08 percent; Ortiz, 2.04 percent; and the number of undecided was 2.04 percent.

Within the Broad Front, List No 99 for the first time obtained the most votes with 29.78 percent, followed by the Advanced Democracy [Democracia Avanzada] with 21.27 percent; Socialist Party with 14.89 percent; Christian Democratic Party with 10.73 percent; Independent Democratic Left with 12 percent; while undecided persons within the Broad Front totaled 21.27 percent.

Within the Colorado Party, Sanguinetti obtained 75.60 percent; Pacheco, 21.95 percent, while undecided persons accounted for 2.43 percent.

From the total 900 persons questioned by El Espectador so far, the Broad Front obtained the support of a total of 30.11 percent, followed by the National and Colorado Parties which obtained 27.22 percent each.

AFP ASSESSES THREE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

PY100200 Paris AFP in Spanish 1917 GMT 9 Nov 84

[By Michel Henault]

[Text] Montevideo, 9 Nov (AFP) -- Two lawyers and a physician are the only candidates of nine presidential nominees that have any real possibilities of winning the elections that will be held in Uruguay, the smallest Republic in South America, on 25 November after 11 years of military dictatorship.

Colorado Party candidate Julio Sanguinetti, National (Blanco) Party candidate Alberto Zumaran, and Juan Crottogini, the candidate of the Broad Front leftist coalition, who represent the three major political parties of the country, will receive almost all the votes of the 2.2 million registered voters. Polls show that these three candidates have the same chance of winning, but Sanguinetti is leading with a minimum advantage of less than 2 percent over either of his two rivals. If the undecided votes are accounted for, over 12 percent, Sanguinetti, Zumaran and Crottogini have the same chance of replacing General Gregorio Alvarez in Government House on 1 March 1985, which is the date the military will hand over power to the constitutional government.

Sanguinetti is the natural candidate of the Colorado Party, which is the party that has been most frequently in power since Uruguay's independence over 150 years ago. However, his two rivals, Zumaran and Crottogini, are replacements for the true leaders of their respective parties, Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, of the National Party, and Liber Seregni, of the Broad Front, who were outlawed by the military regime, just like the Communist Party and extreme leftist parties.

The Colorado Party (center left) candidate hopes to win based on his experience and the moderate and conciliatory tone of his platform. A lawyer and journalist, Sanguinetti was deputy for Montevideo three times and minister twice in industry and education. Elected secretary general of his party when political activities were normalized, Sanguinetti favors reconciliation and dialogue, a position which, according to analysts, was a decisive factor for the military to accept the return of a constitutional government. Explaining the reasons which led him not to demand the enforcement of an unrestricted amnesty within the framework of the agreement with the military, Sanguinetti said during this election campaign that we are seeking solutions, not conflicts. The important thing is for us to come out of the tunnel.

The National Party (or Blanco, center left), the traditional rival of the Colorados, also chose a lawyer, 44-year-old Alberto Zumaran, as its leader to stand in for Wilson Ferreira Aldunate. This is the first time he is running for an elective post.

A staunch opponent of the military regime, Zumaran favors sweeping reforms in the financial and agricultural sector, sectors with which he is quite familiar in his capacity as producer and exporter of agricultural products. Zumaran, who directs the political weekly LA DEMOCRACIA, which has been closed several times, was jailed briefly for having opposed the military regime when political activities were banned.

Doctor Juan Crottogini, a 76-year-old gynecologist, the rector and dean of the national medical school, appears as a political alternative at the head of the Broad Front, which groups 16 leftist organizations. Although he has never held any public posts, Crottogini is not unknown among Uruguayan electors since he was General Liber Seregni's running mate in the 1971 elections.

Montevideo observers have noted that the three candidates know that none of them will win the necessary majority on the 25 November elections to govern by himself. Therefore, the winner will have to seek allies among the rival political factions to avoid the instability that led the military to power in 1973.

COLORADOS SEE COMMUNIST THREAT IN BROAD FRONT

Sanguinetti Comments

PY1>1630 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 9 Nov 84 p 5

[Excerpts] In the Colorado Party Convention Hall, the Unity and Reform candidates to the Chamber of Deputies and the Departmental Council took the oath of office yesterday. Presidential candidate Julio Maria Sanguinetti and Antonio Marchesano, candidate for the presidency of the Chamber of deputies, gave speeches on this occasion. The secretary general of the Colorado Party National Executive Board placed emphasis on the need to ensure the Colorado Party victory in the upcoming elections in order to secure a return to a true democracy.

Sanguinetti stated: Behind that person who acts so calmly [Seregni] there are groups whose strength is well known. We have seen that the flag with the hammer and the sickle which has been hidden for 20 years has started to appear. And there is no doubt that they are now determined to try to assert, within the Broad Front, their predominance in the working sectors. They are stating this. This is not a personal issue, it is a political fact. There is philosophical battle, a battle of principles, regarding these ideas. A front which has totalitarian currents, to the detriment of those which are not totalitarian, undoubtedly represents a danger and a threat to the institutional stability of a country.

Vasconcellos Remarks

PY071829 Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Amilcar Vasconsellos, Jr, a member of Colorado Party List No 315, has stated that the Communist Party controls the Broad Front through the Advanced Democracy, which identifies itself with the dove of peace but is characterized, throughout the world, by violence.

In referring to the return of Rodney Arismendi, first Secretary of the Communist Party, Vasconcellos stated:

[Begin recording] I think that the most important point of Rodney Arismendi's return to Uruguay is not the disagreements within the Broad Front, but the fact that the publicly voiced his support of the coalition entitled Advanced Democracy, which is not a progressive democracy because it is a totalitarian force that identifies itself with the dove of peace although and is not a pacifist force since it has resorted to violence throughout the world to silence and subjugate people. His presence definitely shows that the Advanced Democracy is conducted, guided, and manipulated by the Communist Party and the Communist International. We have seen how the communist flags, with the hammer and the sickle, the flags of the Communist Youth Union of the Viet Cong, were paraded along 18 de Julio Avenue in support of the Advanced Democracy when Enrique Rodriguez and Rodney Arismendi returned. The Communist leader himself said that he feels identified with the Advanced Democracy. [end recording]

SOCIALISTS DENY DISCORD WITHIN BROAD FRONT

PY090215 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Jose D'Elia, vice presidential candidate of the Broad Front [FA], told El Espectador that the incident that took place between the Christian Democrats and Rodney Arismendi [the first secretary of the Communist Party], the withdrawal of the Independent Democratic Left, and the rumor that the Communists are managing the FA are part of a campaign aimed to discredit the FA coalition before the elections. D'Elia also said that the (?coalition) formed by the Socialist Party and the List of 99 is made for electoral purposes, and that the two parties are part of the ideological unity of the FA. D'Elia, a labor leader, was interviewed at the act of proclamation of labor candidates of the Socialist Party.

Guillermo Alvarez, one of the newly proclaimed labor candidates, was also interviewed about the reason for summoning this act. This labor leader said that the Socialist Party has been struggling all these years to organize this act, after many years of not being allowed to meet publicly. Alvarez said that his party is anti-imperialist; however, he defended the position of the Soviet Union. He said that the Soviet leaders managed to eradicate the exploitation of man by man. These are the statements of socialist candidate Guillermo Alvarez.

MILITARY ARMS PURCHASES SUSPENDED FOR 2 YEARS

PA160133 Rome IPS in Spanish 1613 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Caracas, 15 Nov (IPS) -- The Venezuelan Government announced today that all purchases of arms and equipment will be suspended for 2 and 1/2 years because the Armed Forces are well enough equipped at present. Shortly after he met with President Jaime Lusinchi, Defense Minister Vice Admiral Andres Brito said that the decision was adopted based on the shared view that, for the time being, the nation's Armed Forces have no need to purchase new arms and equipment.

The freezing of purchases for 2 and 1/2 years will not affect those items already ordered and pending delivery. Brito indicated that the Armed Forces' budget should be aimed at maintaining existing equipment, making it fully operational, and improving the troops' personal lives.

This decision has been taken amid Venezuela's worst economic crisis and in view of a financial outlook with little promise, characterized by an unstable oil market and a refinancing agreement that provides for payments averaging $4.6 billion beginning next year.

AZPURUA VIEWS EFFECTS OF OPEC OIL PRODUCTION CUT

PA130036 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 2 Nov 84 Sec 1 p 1

[Text] Finance Minister Manuel Azpurua Arreaza has reasserted that the situation is manageable despite the cut in the oil output agreed to by OPEC. He said that there will be no need for budget adjustments because the cut is temporary.

[Question] How much will Venezuela lose because of this measure?

[Answer] It all depends on the duration of the reduction. If it lasts until the end of the year, as has been reported, there will be a drop in revenues but it will be perfectly manageable. It would not affect us substantially because this year's budget was calculated on the basis of a daily production of 1,502,000 barrels and our production has been larger than that during this period.

When asked what would happen in fiscal year 1985, he insisted that the OPEC decision is temporary and that, therefore, the problem with the oil market will be resolved early next year. If the decision remains in effect, we will then have to determine what effect the reduction will have in 1985, he said.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi has received in Miraflores Palace the credentials of the new ambassadors of Algeria, Mustapha Boutaieb; Colombia, Alberto Zalamea Costa; Japan, Yoshisuke Takiguchi; the Dominican Republic, Ramon Ledesma Perez; Paraguay, Raul Monte Domecq Gonzalez; and Sweden, Lars Erik Schonander. [Summary] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 26 Oct 84 sec 1 p 14 PA]

NEW AMBASSADOR TO UK -- London, 25 Oct -- Jose Luis Salcedo Bastardo, Venezuela's new ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland presented his credentials to Queen Elizabeth II today. [Summary] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 26 Oct 84 p D 15 PA]

SECRETARIAT ON LOWERING RESERVE REQUIREMENT

FL140204 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2317 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The Finance Secretariat reported today that the reduction of the reserve requirement from 50 to 10 percent, which was proposed by the Office of the President to the Congress, means that the public debt will not be financed with bank resources. The secretariat added that with this measure, resources will be freed which can be used for investments which the banking system is required to make in the housing, industrial, commercial, and other sectors.

It said that over 45 percent of these extra resources can be used for investments made by the public sector and the rest can be used by the country's private and social sectors.

The Finance Secretariat stated that the reserve requirement, or the amount of money banks must deposit, will now be only 10 centavos for each peso deposited in the bank, instead of the 49 centavos that was required. That deposit will be used only for monetary regulation, that is, to avoid an excess of monetary reserves in the bank. The Finance Secretariat estimated that in this way, the public sector will be totally aware of the financing of the banking system in the country.

CENTRAL BANK FAVORS LIMITING CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION

FL092206 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0030 GMT 9 Nov 84

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- In its monthly report, the Bank of Mexico says that the rise and fall of the market for Mexican exports is a normal phenomenon although a drop in income from crude oil sales is bad for the nation. The Bank of Mexico says that price adjustment alone is not the solution to the problem of the crude oil market. The key is in an agreement on limiting production that, together with the seasonal increase in demand this winter, will help strengthen the market.

With reference to the domestic market for crude, the bank report says that last August the production of crude and condensates dropped to 2,678,000 barrels daily because of the decrease in crude exports. The bank also says that average daily production during the first 8 months of 1984 was 2,826,500 barrels, which was 5.5 percent higher than in 1983.

NAFINSA ANNOUNCES $20-MILLION LINE OF CREDIT

FL131534 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0420 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Text] Mexico City, 12 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican parastatal enterprise, National Finance Bank, [Nafinsa], has finalized an all-inclusive $20-million line of credit with Chicago's First National Bank. This credit, Nafinsa announced, will be used to finance imports under preferential conditions, and repairs of machinery and equipment from the neighbor to the north as needed by the national industry.

The credit was signed by Carlos Zorrilla de la Garza, financial assistant director of Nafinsa, and by Alan F. Delp, senior representative of the U.S. bank. The amortization terms and interest rates depend on the type of imported products so that the purchases of goods and repairs may be financed up to 100 percent of their value, with 180-day amortization terms and annually prorated interests based at the U.S. preferential rate (first part).

CEMA CHIEF LAUDS RECOVERY PLANS, DEPARTS

FL142305 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2150 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 14 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The executive secretary of CEMA said today that the socialist bloc countries are fully confident of Mexico's economic recovery because of measures implemented by the Mexican Government. Interviewed at the Mexico City airport before returning to Moscow, Vyacheslav Vladimirovich Sychev added that during his brief stay in the country, he was able to verify the advances achieved by the people and Government of Mexico in the economic recovery process.

JAPAN CONSIDERS PURCHASING MORE PETROLEUM

FL091752 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2011 GMT 8 Nov 84

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The Japanese Government is interested in increasing its Mexican crude oil imports, which are presently 160,000 barrels a day, to become the second largest importer of Mexican oil in the world, the Japanese ambassador, Kiyoaki Kikuchi, said today. Interviewed at the capital's airport before departing for his country, he explained that Japan's exports to Mexico have decreased because of Mexico's economic crisis. He said despite the economic problems Mexico is having, trade relations will continue between the two nations and it is possible that by becoming the second largest importer of Mexican oil, trade and investment relations between the two countries will improve. Kikuchi said the meetings with Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda Amor and PEMEX Director Mario Ramon Beteta were productive.

SIDERMEX OFFICIAL PROVIDES SALES, EXPORT FIGURES

FL121454 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2255 GMT 9 Nov 84

[Text] Lazaro Cardenas, Mexico, 9 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The deputy director general of the Mexican Iron and Steel Enterprise (Sidermex), Miguel Alesio Robeles, reported today that in 1984 Sidermex sales will total 200 billion pesos (about $1 billion). This figure includes the sales of the following iron and steel mills: Cardenas-Truchas (Sicartsa), Mexican Altos Hornos, and Monterrey. Sidermex exports will total 605,000 tons of steel products and will be shipped to the United States, Iraq, Canada, Algeria, FRG, Japan, Hong Kong, and China.

Income from exports will total 25 billion pesos ($125 million), which amount is included in the figure given for total sales. Alesio Robles said he is carrying out an aggressive policy of market diversification to increase exports. Alesio Robles held a press conference after the inauguration of the third exposition on import substitution held by Sidermex to get Mexican firms to produce spare parts, materials, and equipment for the iron and steel industry. He said Mexico has a specific quota of 395,000 tons of exports of finished steel products to the United States, of which Sidermex will provide 243,000 tons within one year. He reported that certain special steels, machinery, equipment, and capital goods of advanced technology must still be imported but, he stressed, the balance of trade in these specialties is still favorable to Mexico. Alesio Robles also spoke of the substitution of imports, saying that in the first 6 months of 1984 Sidermex saved $12 million in foreign exchange by producing and buying parts, materials, and equipment that it used to import. He said that, in addition, Sidermex is producing spare parts for its own use and for other Mexican industries. He called upon Mexican private sector industrialists to increase their participation in the production of articles that still have to be imported, saying that in this way the nation will appreciably reduce imports and thus decrease its need for foreign exchange.

COSTA RICA

PRESIDENT MONGE REAFFIRMS NEUTRALITY

FL160008 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2012 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] San Jose 15 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge said today that neutrality is the only way to keep his country away from war and arms, and stressed the stand of preventing the creation of a national army.

During the commemoration of the first anniversary of the proclamation of the active, perpetual, and nonarmed neutrality, Monge said his initiative has had overwhelming support among the Costa Rican people.

He regretted that news editorials and the political sectors, which do not reflect the feelings of the people, are attacking his decision of remaining neutral in Central American conflicts. He said the civil wars and rumors of great aggressive outbursts in the region move the country's people profoundly but they do not hinder the national will to overcome the crisis with peace and freedom.

The president said powerful foreign military factors provide the arms and weak Central American factors provide the dead, in a perfect combination to aggravate a conflict which provokes political instability, economic weakness, uneasiness, and mass migrations.

He said Costa Ricans and foreigners can be sure that Costa Rica will not participate in any aggressive conflict among third parties and, by proclaiming neutrality a year ago, he made a commitment with the international community to respect and comply with the rights and duties established by international laws.

Monge said, refering to those who attack this position and accuse him of an alleged weakness, that neutrality has increased the capacity of national defense, strengthened public safety, and enriched Costa Rica's foreign policy. Today we are stronger than a year ago, he said.

He recalled the historic tradition of neutrality, started in the first days of independence in 1821, and continuing in the government of Juan Rafael Mora in 1855, until 1949, when the elimination of the army was included in the Constitution. Finally, he said the Costa Rican posture should be viewed as an institution created by history, experience, and the pacifist vocation of their people.

Further Remarks

PA150206 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 8 Nov 84 p 4

[Text] "We have to consolidate the positions that are rooted in our best traditions. One of them is neutrality, the offspring of our most deeply rooted temperament."

"We must not waste resources on weapons, or stain the clean moral force of our neutrality with warlike attitudes. To some foolish people of both extremes, the idea of embarking upon preventive wars is a possibility that should not be ruled out at any time," President Luis Alberto Monge said in an address on neutrality and peace to students and residents of Los Hatillos of San Jose, after he participated in the ceremony to inaugurate the lights on the community's football field and basketball court.

"I will repeat out loud, as often as necessary, that neutrality in armed conflicts does not imply nonparticipation in the ideological struggle, because we are firm advocates of the democratic principles of the West, nor does it imply being defenseless, because we are prepared to defend our values at any cost. The Costa Rican people are capable of all kinds of heroism on behalf of their peace and freedom," the president added. "We must not listen to those who seek to increase resentment and ill will. We must not be swayed by desperation. We must be diligent and optimistic. The historical facts confirm the uniqueness of Costa Rican democracy, and we cannot lose, because of imprudence or cowardice, that which has cost rivers of blood in other countries," the president said in conclusion.

SPADAFORA DETAINED AT BORDER, DEPORTED TO PANAMA

PA151455 Rome IPS in Spanish 0357 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Excerpts] San Jose, 14 Nov (IPS) -- A local radio station today reported that Costa Rican police detained and deported to Panama anti-Sandinist leader Hugo Spadafora and said that he is forbidden to enter the country. Radio Monumental, a San Jose station, said that Spadafora, a Panamanian citizen, was detained at a border post. Cesar Vega, the station's correspondent at Paso Canoas customs post, reported: "Spadafora arrived on foot and alone, carrying a small valise only, and asked immigration authorities for permission to enter Costa Rica. The police detained him immediately." The Costa Rican police turned Spadafora over to Generoso Valenzuela, a Panamanian Defense Forces official at Paso Canoas. Vega said that the Panamanian official received Spadafora "as a man under arrest." According to Vega, Spadafora, a former guerrilla, told Costa Rican authorities that he would not resist his detention and deportation to Panama because "I am a Panamanian citizen and will not be harmed in Panamanian territory." The radio station said that a few hours before Spadafora's arrest, a Panamanian helicopter flew over the border because "Panamanian authorities had learned that Spadafora was in the general area of Paso Canoas."

EL SALVADOR

COFFEE PRODUCERS SEND OPEN LETTER TO REAGAN

PA130245 San Salvador DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 10 Nov 84 p 2

[Advertisement by the Association of Salvadoran Coffee Producers: "Open Letter to Ronald Reagan"]

[Text] Mr President: We congratulate you on your smashing victory over the democratic candidate, Walter Mondale. We ask you to extend these congratulations to the American people. Your victory confirms the antisocialist mandate issued 4 years ago not only by the U.S. citizens who elected you, but by all peoples of the world who aspire to freedom and justice. As you know, here in El Salvador we are suffering the armed aggression of the Soviet socialists, now invited to participate in the battle at the polls. But we also suffer the juridical aggression of the democratic socialists and the christian socialists, determined to uphold the reforms imposed by force during the Carter-Mondale term. One of these reforms, the coffee state monopoly, is seriously affecting our economy and is most harmful to the Salvadorans of all classes. This monopoly has no reason to exist. Because of this, the Association of Salvadoran Coffee Producers, which groups over 37,000 coffee growers, recently submitted to the legislative assembly a draft bill to cancel decree 75, issued by the revolutionary junta of Guillermo Ungo early in 1980. Ungo, as you know, has become the spokesman of the armed aggressors. Ungo's decree 75 totally nationalized coffee, permitting the loss of thousands of millions [currency not specified], thus harming the people of El Salvador. Its mistaken premises and its false arguments reflect the hatred and envy of the revolutionaries, whose spurious proclamation of 1979 was clearly suspended when the new Constitution went into effect in December 1983. Decree 75, therefore, never had a glimmer of legality.

The new Constitution strictly prohibits all monopolies, and there is no reason to keep this one which destroyed our economy and sacrificed not only the 37,000 coffee growers, their families and the hired help, but all Salvadorans, who would be much better off if this monopoly did not exist. The association of coffee producers has submitted to the assembly the draft bill derogating it, in the hope that all deputies will act patriotically and will finally condemn the Decree 75 of Ungo, who created the coffee state monopoly. But we know that there are alien forces working in our midst which could turn our efforts around, claiming that the spurious proclamation of 1979 is still in effect, that the monopoly is necessary, and who knows what other arguments with shameful designs. We appeal to you, Mr President Reagan, because we know that keeping your promises led to your reelection. To reduce taxes, to eliminate inflation, to fight unemployment, to strengthen defense, and to liberate the economy are issues just as important in the United States as here in El Salvador. It would be illogical, for instance, for you to criticize Walter Mondale and his followers in the United States, and yet accept what they propose for El Salvador. The coffee state monopoly or any other monopoly is totally unacceptable in the North American way of life, and must be condemned by those of us who intend to save Central America from Soviet aggression. We do not ask you to answer our letter, but we ask you to issue instructions to those who represent your administration in our country to support our motion at the Legislative Assembly, just as Carter and Mondale instructed their representatives, the ill-fated Robert E. White, to abusively support Ungo's reform and his revolutionaries.

San Salvador, 9 November 1984. Association of Salvadoran Coffee Producers.

COPREFA REPORTS CLASHES, CONFISCATION OF ARMS

PA150007 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 2100 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Communique issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee, [Coprefa] in San Salvador; date not given -- live]

[Text] Seven terrorists, members of the FMLN, were killed over the weekend by members of the Armed Forces in different areas of the country. In addition, important war materiel was confiscated. In Usulutan Department, near a Sante Fe farm, San Francisco Javier jurisdiction members of the 6th Infantry Brigade clashed with terrorists. As a result of this clash, three terrorists were killed and one M-16 rifle, in addition to important documents, were confiscated. In this same department, near Canton Los Horcones, Tecapan jurisdiction, members of the Atonal Battalion engaged in a clash with FMLN members, inflicting two dead. In addition, members of the Ramon Belloso Battalion, which has been stationed in Chalatenango, clashed with the terrorists in the village of Plan Grande, Dulce Nombre de Maria jurisdiction; one terrorist was killed and six were wounded. In addition, the following war materiel was confiscated: 6 M-16 rifles, 3 fragmentation grenades, 20 ammunition clips for M-16 rifles, 8 ammunition clip carriers, ammunition, and assorted military materiel. Likewise, a terrorist captured by the Sierpe Battalion of the 1st Military Detachment stationed in Chalatenango disclosed the location of a weapons cache in the general area of El Carmen, San Francisco Morazan jurisdiction, north of Chalatenango Department. Members of the 4th Infantry Brigade confiscated the following war materiel: 1 81-mm mortar, 1 Mauser rifle, 10 81-mm mortar rounds, 30 RPG-2 grenades, 30 boxes of TNT, 2 rounds for 57-mm caliber recoilless rifle, 30 rounds of RPG-2 propellant, and a large amount of assorted caliber rounds for .50-, 5.56-, .9-, 7.62-, and .30-caliber machine guns. Lastly, members of the Fonseca Battalion from the 3d Military Detachment stationed in La Union clashed with FMLN squads near the village (Planes del Volcancillo), Joateca jurisdiction, Morazan Department, and inflicted a still undetermined number of wounded. The Army sustained no casualties during these actions.

ATONAL BATTALION DESTROYS TERRORIST SCHOOL

PA091300 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 8 Nov 84 p 13

[Text] A terrorist training school that operated in La Paz canton and hamlet, San Agustin jurisdiction, has been destroyed by the Atonal Battalion, a special rapid deployment infantry battalion. According to reports issued by the Armed Forces, in operations carried out over the weekend by the Atonal Battalion troops during the second phase of the encircling operation underway in Usulutan Department, a terrorist training school was destroyed. It was at this school that kidnapped youths were being trained for terrorist acts and to destroy the people's property. It was reported that these youths, whose ages range between 8 and 15 years, told the members of the Armed Forces that they had been brought to this school by force. Armed Forces spokesman also reported that the rapid deployment battalion destroyed a terrorist camp, used as a supply center, in the Platanares canton and hamlet, San Agustin jurisdiction. A clinic that operated at this camp was destroyed and a lot of medicine was confiscated. It was also reported that a shoe repair shop and a center for the distribution of food were destroyed at the camp. The Armed Forces spokesmen also reported that a clandestine cemetery with 20 recently dug graves was also discovered at this camp. The Armed Forces continue their search for and destruction of terrorist redoubts in their attempt to guarantee peace and democracy in the department of Usulutan.

VENCEREMOS SAYS EASTERN SECTOR AT 'STANDSTILL'

PA131500 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Text] Attention! Attention! Radio Venceremos continues reporting to our people on revolutionary activities in various parts of the country. The eastern sector of El Salvador is at a standstill! Transportation on the country's eastern highways is paralyzed, as reported by the national and international media. As part of the FMLN order to maintain the paralyzation of transportation, the following was reported: At 0620 on Monday, 12 November, an FMLN guerrilla group seized a stretch of the Pan-American Highway between the Guayabito and Moncagua turnoff. The guerrillas kept this stretch under their control for 2 hours and 15 minutes. During this time, our military units sabotaged three transformers, thus confirming the effectiveness of the FMLN order to stop transportation, as there are no vehicles circulating on the Pan-American highway. This was confirmed by this report. The country's eastern sector is paralyzed due to our FMLN's instructions. We warn the people that there will be heavy fighting on the country's eastern roads in the next few hours. For this reason, we are urging the people not to circulate because there will be fighting with the dictatorship's forces at any time. We are asking the people not to circulate in order to avoid having innocent victims in the confrontations that will be staged by our revolutionary army to sabotage the war economy of the dictatorship and to stop the passage of fuel, ammunition, and troops of the puppet army.

VENCEREMOS ON DAMAGES TO GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT

PA112231 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1400 GMT 11 Nov 84

[Text] In the 5 months of the Duarte dictatorship we have either damaged or downed 14 dictatorship aircraft. We have hit 14 dictatorship aircraft; those helicopters and planes will not be used to bomb cities and Salvadoran people any more, as was the case on Friday when Reagan planes bombed defenseless civilians in Suchitoto.

MANAGUA AIRS FMLN-FDR COMMUNIQUE ON ACTIVITIES

PA160428 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0315 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] This is a communique of the FMLN-FDR Political Commission.

1. On 13 November a Honduran Army patrol entered Salvadoran territory through the Sabanetas area in Morazan Department and clashed with FMLN troops at Los Patios and La Galera, 5 km from the border.

2. On the same day a Honduran battalion arrived at (Curuguara), San Antonio, and San Rafael, all near the Salvadoran border.

3. Yesterday, 14 November, another Honduran battalion accompanied by 10 U.S. advisers occupied La Concepcion, 5 km from Colomoncagua, 7 km from Salvadoran territory.

4. In addition, communications between Honduran and Salvadoran forces were monitored yesterday. According to these communications, a meeting at Joateca has been planned for today or tomorrow by Salvadoran officers of Cacahuatique and Arce Battalions and Honduran commanders of the Marcala Battalion stationed at Concepcion.

5. In addition, 17 UH-1 Huey helicopters have landed at Tegucigalpa, as well as 6 Chinook helicopters of the U.S. Army. These helicopters are armed and have been placed at the disposal of the Honduran Army. It is worthwhile to note that a Chinook can carry as many as 60 fully-equipped men. These incidents occur in the framework of the recent threats of invasion against Nicaragua by the U.S. Government. This threat is expressed through the presence of U.S. troops and warships in Gulf of Fonseca waters and the state of alert that Mr Reagan has ordered for the 82d Airborne Division. The FMLN-FDR Political Commission can only believe that an offensive action is being prepared by the U.S., Honduran, and Salvadoran Armies against our forces and national sovereignty.

We denounce these incidents, which we consider extremely serious, and warn the international public about this new step in the Reagan government's interventionist escalation against our homeland. We reassert our determination and ability to defend our people and territory against any foreign aggression.

HONDURAN ARMY BATTALION CONCENTRATED NEAR BORDER

PA151836 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Excerpt] We have just received information that a Honduran Army battalion is concentrated at Concepcion, located on the border with Morazan Department. It has been confirmed that a Honduran Army battalion is in Concepcion, located on the border with Morazan Department. The reports added that 10 U.S. military advisers accompanying this Honduran battalion are engaged in active military preparations. Other reports revealed that additional Honduran Army units are advancing to join the forces already in Concepcion, on the Salvadoran border. These military movements of the Hondruan troops with U.S. Army advisers coincide with reports released on 24 October by U.S. newspapers about joint military maneuvers to take place in November between the armies of Honduras, El Salvador, and the United States.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA VICTORES ADDRESSES NATION ON ECONOMY

PA151529 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0202 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Address to the nation by Head of State General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores -- live]

[Text] Fellow citizens: As I said in my address on 11 October, the country is experiencing an especially difficult economic situation due to a series of diverse circumstances.

On that occasion I urged Guatemalans to become aware of the seriousness of the problems we are facing. I clearly stated that the government was applying a set of comprehensive measures in order to protect the national interests amid the crisis so as to allow Guatemalans to have the basic elements to live a normal life within the limits imposed on us by the circumstances.

I also pointed out that the task of pulling the country out of the crisis does not solely belong to the government; instead it must involve, out of patriotism and national solidarity, all Guatemalans regardless of ideology, social status, or religious beliefs.

Today, I want to reiterate the fundamental concepts expressed on that occasion by announcing to the Guatemalan people the implementation of new measures concerning exchange policies, which are part of the overall strategy we have drawn up to face the economic crisis.

First of all, I would like to say that despite the fact that the government recently implemented several measures, the country is still faced with diverse obstacles on the road to overcoming the prolonged economic stagnation.

Productive activity, particularly concerning industries as well as some agricultural products for export, continues trying to overcome different snags to obtain a more satisfactory development.

One of the most serious problems affecting our economic development is that our commercial and financial relations with other countries have not been able to recover from the considerable reduction which took place in 1982 and 1983. Due to the international recession, our exports have not returned to their previous levels, especially with regard to products such as cotton, meat, and other items.

Sales to the CACM countries, which are of basic importance in maintaining our industrial production at an acceptable rate, have been greatly affected by the region's political situation as well as by the effects of the international crisis on the economies of those countries. For that reason, those countries have been forced to cut back their foreign purchases, and to involuntarily delay payment for those exports.

Access to foreign financing sources, especially private sources, has been hampered by the reluctance on the part of the international bankers to continue lending money to the developing countries in view of the fact that some countries have an extraordinarily high level of debt.

Our foreign debt has very favorable aspects when compared to that of other countries. However, the international banking system frequently puts us at the same level as other Latin American countries when considering granting us more loans. As a result, for the past 3 years the country has been undergoing a very difficult phase, characterized by the lack of foreign currency, and this has created a series of problems.

First of all, this shortage has forced us to postpone payment of foreign debts that have come due for goods and services imported in past years. As a result, the Bank of Guatemala proceeded to renegotiate [modificar] these debts and by this means, we are meeting our obligations gradually and as our resources permit.

Second, the public expense policies of the past government and the flight of capital abroad and other situations which have occurred in the area drained the country's monetary reserves; thus, the Bank of Guatemala has increased its foreign debts in order to reinforce the balance of payments and support economic activities.

Third, the shortage of foreign currency forced us to ration such currency. This led to the creation of a black market whose illegal nature brought about frauds and swindles, endangering and hurting the interests of some enterprises and private individuals.

As I said earlier, we do not have foreign exchange because we have a trade balance deficit since we do not export enough and we import above our real capacity to pay.

In other words, we have been consuming more than we produce. At this point, it is necessary to proceed to readjust our situation with regard to the foreign sector in order to guarantee that essential goods are imported in a manner that is most advantageous to the country's interests.

As I have said on other occasions, this situation has been inherited from previous governments, but we cannot bequeath it to the next government. The situation demands immediate solutions, because its effects will be cumulative. If measures are not taken now, the government that succeeds us will have to take even more drastic measures. This would be unfortunate for the establishment of a new constitutional regime, because deterioration of the economy is not conducive to social peace or to a consolidation of democracy.

The military government is trying to bequeath to the future government an economy that is on the way to recovery, so that democracy may be preserved in the future. In this regard, the Guatemalan Army will never evade its responsibility to the people or to history. Moreover, as a Latin American statesman aptly said: We have no option but to face the economic crisis with a sense of responsibility. We have studied several paths by which to face up to the problems caused by the shortage of foreign exchange. The easy path would be to do nothing and pass the problem on to the next government. Obviously, that would be an irresponsible attitude that would negate the current government's policy of mobilizing all the economic and social forces that can help to ensure that the country has the basics such as supplies of food and fuel, education, health and employment. We have also ruled out devaluation, because we feel that it is not necessary and that, to the contrary, in the present circumstances, the generalized rise in prices that would inevitably result from such a measure would affect the standard of living of low- and middle-income Guatemalans.

For the foregoing reasons, we have decided to implement, effective tomorrow, the second part of the country's Monetary Law; in other words, a state of emergency in international transfers, in line with the recommendations approved by the Monetary Board and remitted to the head of state in compliance with the law. This measure will temporarily create two foreign exchange markets in the country. In one, foreign exchange will be obtained at the rate of one quetzal per U.S. dollar and on the other, foreign exchange will be sold and purchased at a price determined by supply and demand.

The market which operates at the official one-to-one exchange rate will be used for payments of imported essential goods to be used to satisfy the people's basic needs and for honoring commitments deriving from servicing the country's foreign debt. The government feels that, in this way, the social cost of confronting the present crisis will be reduced to a minimum. Other imports, most of which have been financed on the black market, will be paid for with foreign exchange obtained on the free market, thereby legalizing a de facto situation and placing those transactions within a legal framework. This will undoubtedly increase the confidence of investors and thus, in the future, could promote the return of capital because of the favorable effects and the creation of jobs.

The Guatemalan people may feel certain that adoption of this measures was carefully analyzed, with care taken always to protect the country's interests, and with attention given to the need to stimulate economic reactivation. We are fully aware that the seriousness of the crisis that the country is facing demands unpostponable solutions.

We believe that both the fiscal measures that we took previously and those that are being adopted now will help to correct the payment imbalances. We believe that this difficult time is a good opportunity for us Guatemalans to redefine our priorities and for us all together to make the nationalistic decision to support our own, consume our own, and know our own. We are making use of the instruments established by law to defend the parity of our currency, but we must realize that this is not only an effort to be made by the government, but is a task that should be shared by all.

Guatemalans, protecting the country's highest interests in a time of crisis like the present demands sacrifices and a sense of responsibility. We are putting into practice our decision to forge ahead in this task. However, our government demands, first of all, the understanding of the citizens and second, their cooperation.

We expect, and we will demand, unrestricted respect for the exchange regulations that will guarantee a supply of foreign exchange for the essential payments market, which will be the source for satisfying the basic needs of Guatemalan society.

Finally, I wish to urge my fellow citizens to once again raise on high their spirit of solidarity and patriotism by supporting the country's productive activities, giving preference to domestic over imported items, and visiting and getting to know our country, which in terms of beauty has no need to envy any other country. In this way, we will be helping to reduce the duration of the measures that we are implementing, otherwise, the path to recovery will be longer and more difficult. Thank you very much.

ANDRADE REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR CONTADORA

PA142123 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Text] Guatemala is prepared to sign the present version of the Contadora Document but agrees to continue negotiations in view of the reservations that have been submitted by Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Honduras.

This announcement was made by Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran today in a speech before the 14th OAS General Assembly in Brasilia. Andrade said that Guatemala reiterates its unconditional support for the Contadora process, which has averted a generalized military confrontation in the area and has permitted Central Americans to hold a permanent and constructive dialogue.

Andrade spoke at length about the measures that have been adopted by General Mejia Victores' government which, he said, will culminate with the establishment of a strong democracy in Guatemala. He particularly emphasized the election of the Constituent Assembly that took office in August.

Andrade reiterated that Guatemala does not recognize the independence granted by the United Kingdom to Belize and maintains its claims over that territory.

MINISTER ON TRADE PROBLEMS WITH COSTA RICA

PA152150 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Economy Minister Leonel Hernandez Cardona commented today on the problem currently affecting transport of merchandise through Nicaraguan territory. He said that, unfortunately, when there is a war everything is interrupted. The official was referring to the armed conflict in Nicaragua and the preparations for a possible foreign intervention in that country.

Minister Hernandez Cardona said that he will immediately contact the Nicaraguan trade minister to discuss the possibility of solving the problems arising from the interruption of the transit of Guatemalan merchandise through Nicaraguan territory. The minister also confirmed that a commercial impasse exists with Costa Rica. The two countries have been unable to resolve a situation that has caused serious setbacks to the movement of our exports, the economy minister said today. The Costa Rican Government is keeping its borders closed to Guatemalan products because the tax levied on our country's exports remains in effect. [sentence as heard] The only result obtained from the talks held recently was the promise of a future solution, but for now the borders remain closed, and no date can be foreseen for a change in stance by the Costa Rican Government, the minister added.

MEJIA ON REDUCTION IN MEXICAN OIL SUPPLY

PA112238 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 8 Nov 84

[Text] In a recent statement Guatemalan Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores said that Guatemala may have to seek new markets to supply itself with oil because of a reduction in oil supplies to Guatemala and other nations that was decreed by the Mexican Government. Today, Alejandro Contreras Bonilla, Guatemalan energy and mines minister, explained the reasons for the measure adopted by the Mexican oil authorities.

[Begin Contreras recording] Yes, Mexico has publicly announced -- in Guatemala we received a telex -- its decision to decrease the daily oil supply to its various buyers. This has created some confusion here in Guatemala because many believe that the 100,000 barrels of oil that Mexico has decided not to sell will only affect Guatemala. Mexico has announced that it will drop its sales by 100,000 barrels a day, but this number of barrels will be divided among all of its buyers.

Guatemala is purchasing approximately 8,500 barrels of oil from Mexico. This purchase is part of the San Jose agreement. However, Guatemala's consumption of oil has been decreasing. Gautemala has been decreasing its oil purchases from Mexico and from Venezuela. For example, in 1979 Guatemala was consuming approximately 30,000 barrels of oil per day; in 1980 Guatemala's consumption increased to 31,300 barrels per day and since then we have been lowering the consumption drastically. In 1981 we consumed 27,900 barrels, in 1982 only 25,200, and last year, 1983, the consumption dropped even further to 22,800 barrels per day. As you can see we have lowered our consumption from 31,300 to 22,800 and we expect to lower this consumption even more by next year. We are hoping for a daily average of between 18,000 to 19,000 barrels of oil per day. [end recording]

HONDURAS

PRESIDENT SUAZO SPEAKS AT LIBERAL PARTY RALLY

PA130042 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1807 GMT 11 Nov 84

[Speech by President Roberto Suazo Cordova at Liberal Party rally in Danli, El Paraiso Department -- live]

[Text] Dear fellow party members who today are staging this great rally of the Liberal Rodista Movement [MLR] in this city of hills that is so dear to me:

To all Liberals I bring a message of faith, encouragement, and hope, and express my firm and unfaltering determination to strengthen the rich ideals of our great Liberal Party of Honduras [PLH], which is and will continue to be the political force of the majorities to the benefit of our country.

This message that I bring to my fellow party members who have gathered in the city of Danli extols the ideals of Modesto Rodas Alvarado, founder of the MLR, to which he devoted his heart and mind to benefit freedom, justice, and democracy. [applause]

I am constitutional president of the Republic by the majority decision of the Honduran people. As a citizen I am an active member of the PLH, which embodies the rich ideals of freedom, peace, and prosperity. I am also leader of the powerful and invincible MLR which represents the majority sectors of the Honduran liberal tradition.

Political pluralism is good for democracy and democracy benefits social peace and the overall prosperity of our nation. Let no more rumors fly and may no more false reports on the president's actions continue. As leader of all Hondurans I occupy the office of the presidency of the Republic to serve all Hondurans. As active member and leader of the PLH I want the best for all Liberals. I foster no hate or rancor against anyone nor do I aspire to material riches. I am fervently devoted to the well-being of the Honduran people and to the attainment of the revolution of work and honesty. The Liberal administration has had to cross very difficult paths which include an acute economic crisis and a complex international situation. Nonetheless, we have continued onward and we will achieve our invariable goal of bringing prosperity, economic and social well-being, and the strengthening of democracy to Honduras. Despite those difficult paths we have carried out and will continue to carry out many actions to benefit the majorities and to contribute to the well-being of the Honduran people in the country, the cities, municipalities, villages, and hamlets.

Our government is of all the people and all the people participate in it. Our government's actions benefit large sectors of Honduran society: workers and peasants who labor at factories and till the soil; businessmen and professionals, and even our adversaries because they enjoy complete freedom, even to insult the president of the Republic. [applause] Our adversaries and some of our fellow-country members can say whatever they want. We know who tries to destabilize our political system because they are enemies of democracy and accomplices of despotism. In our democracy even the right to conspire in secrecy against Honduras' institutions is exercised. We have the example of the criminal conspiracy that was uncovered in Miami. Those involved have stained their insignias to assault public powers through violence. They have stolen from their country and become cohorts of common mercenaries to plot against and destroy the institutions that our people have built. [applause]

We will continue onward with our heads held high and overcoming obstacles. Nothing will foil our determination to make Honduras an honorable country today and in the future. No one will stop us in our civic struggle to maintain liberalism in power through the honest exercise of voting and to see the MLR continue to lead the PLH, which today begins its electoral campaign with determination, enthusiasm, and civic honesty.

I know that in the consciences of the humble Liberals who comprise the majority of this party there is devotion and determination to maintain unity and to achieve victory for our party. I also know that frustrations and inferiority complexes transform those who have attempted to take advantage of our party and the MLR to obtain personal benefit into arrogant and slanderous men. [applause] However, the people, who are Liberals, know who these men are and the people will have the last word. The people know who their true leaders are. The people will go to the polls to deposit another landslide victory for the red, white, and red that benefits the majority.

Dear fellow party members, receive a warm and fraternal embrace. My heart is with you now and always.

I bid all of you to remain vigilant to face the enemies of democracy, plotters, and anarchists who react because they are toppled from power; to face those who seek power through the innocent blood of many Hondurans. It will be up to all of you to support the Armed Forces led by Commander in Chief General Walter Lopez Reyes 24 hours a day. You must support the Armed Forces without reservation to dangers from within and without. All the Honduran people must remain solidly united to defend territorial integrity and national sovereignty. [applause] I urge all political parties that are legally registered, PLH, National Party, Innovation and Unity Party, and Christian Democratic Party, to register your followers properly, strengthen democracy, and safeguard peace and national security. To the conspirators and enemies of democracy we say: Be patient, have Christian humility, and pray to God so that he may guide you and enlighten you to understand the meaning of democracy and so that you may learn to respect the majority will of a people that is noble and generous: the Honduran people, who have known how to choose the right way to freedom, justice, and democracy.

I greet all of you with great affection, love, and friendship. In this message I give to my fellow party men my white soul and red heart, red and white like the colors of the glorious PLH. Dear fellow party members: Once again I reiterate my determination to work unceasingly so that democracy, freedom and justice will crystalize in Honduras. We must strengthen democracy, we must remain alert and vigilant -- and I was sad to hear over the radio that some 40 to 60 members of Azcona's movement attempted to obstruct the path of 100,000 MLR liberals. However, they are also Liberals so they are fully entitled to struggle withing the PLH. However, opposing factions must respect each other. We would never block one oftheir rallies. We of the MLR will say "here" in the city of Comayagua, our second step on the final stretch toward leadership of the PLH. [applause] As I have always told you, remain calm and at ease. I enjoy the full support of all the Honduran people, beginning with Liberals, and followed by the other social, national and foreign sectors, and with the full support of our Armed Forces, which with the people and government will not allow those who attempt to sow chaos and anarchy in our beloved Honduras pass! [applause] I bid you to remain calm and united. No foreign country will be allowed to trample our sovereignty or territorial integrity. To all Liberals who are here I reiterate my show of affection, the great respect I have for all, and as I have said before, in Suazo Cordova, in addition to a president, you have a brother and a partner in the struggle. Cheers fellow party members and followers! [applause]

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA REVIEWS DOMESTIC, AREA DEVELOPMENTS

PY192145 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 9 Nov 84 p 26

[Interview with President-elect Daniel Ortega by correspondent Mario Stilman; in Managua, date not given]

[Text] Managua -- Commander Daniet Ortega, Nicaragua's president-elect, has told CLARIN that "the tension that we are experiencing is the prelude to more aggressive U.S. action that may involve a direct intervention."

[CLARIN]: What indications have you detected of an eventual intervention?

[Ortega]: In addition to the known facts about the frigate in the port of Corinto and the statements by President Reagan and by Pentagon and State Department officials, we have informaiton that new counterrevolutionary actions are being planned.

[CLARIN]: When you talk about direct intervention, do you have in mind a U.S. military action or an action by forces coming from neighboring countries?

[Ortega]: I do no rule out any alternative.

[CLARIN]: However, tension throughout Central America seems to be relaxing slowly.

[Ortega]: I do not agree with that. I believe that the reelection of Reagan will aggravate the military cirsis in the region. You should take into account that we have recently learned about a statement by Mrs. Kirkpatrick, who said that "the Nicaraguan case should be solved 3 months after the elections." For us, this is very distressing.

[CLARIN]: In any event, what is your opinion of the changes in the top ranking posts of the Honduran Armed Forces?

[Ortega]: I believe that Honduras has taken an important step by expelling General Alvarez Martinez from the Armed Forces and by promoting new officers...

[CLARIN]: Like General Lopez Leyton...?

[Ortega]: As a matter of fact, I believe that this has raised some expectations at the internal level as far as the future of U.S.-Honduran relations is concerned. The issue is being debated both within the Armed Forces and within the government. If they adopted a new policy toward the United States, the Central American crisis would undoubtedly change. But one should take into account that the main U.S. military bases are in Honduras and that there is a de facto situation that has not changed a bit from the viewpoint of its effects on Nicaragua. This is, there are the military bases, the military camps, and the counterrevolutionary groups backed by the United States, regardless of the opinion of the Honduran military commanders.

[CLARIN]: Do you believe that the top commanders of the two countries might meet in the near future like they did in May 1981 in Guassaule?

[Ortega]: We have always been willing to hold a dialogue with the Honduran Armed Forces. However, I believe conditions are not yet ripe. To a considerable extent, the issue will depend on the evolution of the internal Honduran situation. For us, it would be alot more important to engage in a dialogue and hold negotiations with them now.

[CLARIN]: Why do you say that it would be a lot more important now?

[Ortega]: Because the change in Honduras has opened broader possibilities than there were when Gen Alvarez Martinez was the head of the Army.

[CLARIN]: What is your opinion of the recent statement by Genral Blandon, the Salvadoran chief of staff, who asked for a reduction of the U.S. military presence in his country?

[Ortega]: This has disclosed some trends within the Salavdoran Army, trends that are now new, that are known, and that are in disagreement with the position of some groups of officers who have bent to U.S. military mandates. One should also take into account that there are Salvadoran military men willing to engage in a peaceful dialogue with the guerrillas in order to find a negotiated solution. However, this contradiction has caused the United States to exert stronger pressure on the Salvadoran Armed Forces in order to neutralize those officers with stronger inclinations for professionalism.

[CLARIN]: In December 1983, Guatemalan President Mejia Victores confirmed to you in Buenos Aires that his country would remain neutral in case of an eventual attack against Nicaragua. What has been the Guatemalan attitude throughout this time?

[Ortega]: We consider that Guatemala has remained outside of the problems that we are currently facing. The fact that Guatemala attended a U.S.-sponsored meeting held in Tegucigalpa for the purpose of sabotaging the Contadora peace proposal but refused to uphold the position that was backed mainly by Honduras and El Salvador is an indication of the position of President Mejia Victores on the subject.

[CLARIN]: The situation we are evaluating seems to suggest some relaxation or at least a change of direction of the Central American crisis. What is your final evaluation?

[Ortega]: We should not lose the perspective that in the study we made there are contradictory elements that make a precise and concrete evaluation very difficult. Especially if we keep in mind that the events here in Central America are so variable that if we say today that there is some kind of detente among the countries of the area tomorrow we may have to say the contrary. But the basic problem is that the U.S. military presence continues to increase in the region.

[CLARIN]: Then, what is the solution?

[Ortega]: We have repeatedly pointed out that the United States has two options especially under the present circumstances. It either tries to find a negotiated peaceful solution to all the problems in the area by withdrawing its military forces as proposed in the Contadora act or it decides to carry out a direct intervention. I also feel that El Salvador and Honduras have a strong dependence on the United States. A radical change would have to take place in these countries to substantially change the situation that is basically affecting Nicaragua.

ORTEGA WARNS OF 'HOLOCAUST' IF U.S. INTERVENES

PA121525 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 11 Nov 84

[Text] Rome -- Nicaraguan President-elect Daniel Ortega warned the newspaper L'UNITA on Saturday that direct U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua would cause a veritable holocaust, Interviewed on the telephone by the Italian Communist Party's newspaper, Commander Ortega said that the U.S. threats against Nicaragua have created a very grave situation and the danger of a large-scale war in Central America. The governments and the international public opinion should worry about this and mobilize to prevent such a development, the commander added.

The threats against Nicaragua act as a warning signal that the United States might undertake actions as part of its confrontation with the socialist communty, Ortega commented. In order to overcome this situation, he explained, Nicaragua has requested a meeting of the UN Security Council, and it once again insists on the Contadora Group's peace proposals calling for a freeze on importing weapons into Central America.

He added that Nicaragua will continue fighting for the final success of the Contadora peace proposals, and also intends to continue its talks in Mexico with U.S. representatives in an effort to bolster dialogue.

ORTEGA URGES PREPAREDNESS AGAINST ATTACK

PA132149 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1740 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Statement to reporters by Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega -- live]

[Text] Dear Nicaraguan people: Our revolutionary government and leaders have recently denounced to the world and informed our people about our country's grave situation that results from the current tense relations between the Nicaraguan and U.S. Governments due to the current U.S. Administration's aggressive policy toward Nicaragua.

The Defense Ministry has placed our people on a state of general alert, especially all of the military structures, the militiamen, and reserve battalions that comprise the Sandinist People's Army. The state of alert that we have decreed has tested the high moral and political state of preparedness of our people, of the fighters of the revolution. The high level of moral and patriotic preparedness of our entire people has been demonstrated in these dramatic hours when the people have quickly strengthened all the mechanisms we have prepared over the years for situations like the present one, especially in wake of the escalation of aggression by the United States against the Nicaraguan Government and people.

This state of alert makes it possible to quickly mobilize all of the country's Armed Forces and all people in the state structures, the mass organizations, and the entire nation, should our current diplomatic and political situation, or more specifically, our military situation, grow even worse.

This state of alert keeps the revolution and the people from being caught off guard. We already know how in other cases, where the political situation was aggravated as a result of the unjust stances of the warmongers, as was the case in Grenada the plans of imperialism were fulfilled.

As has been analyzed and denounced in this specific case, Nicaragua's political and military situation does not allow us the luxury of not implementing a state of alert. Our people and Armed Forces should never be caught off guard in the eventuality of a direct military attack by the United States.

The lack of political stability in the region resulting from the U.S. Administration's present political stance has led to our decreeing this state of general alert. Since President Ronald Reagan assumed power, more specifically in the last few years, and this year in particular, we have experienced a national emergency situation, mainly as a result of the mercenary war the United States has been maintaining against our country from neighboring territories, especially Honduras. This has led to an abnormal situation for our country and to the adoption of extreme emergency measures related to the economic, political, and social aspects of the process of national reconstruction in whcih we are all involved. This state of emergency is now even more profoundly affected by this call to a national alert. The entire material and economic cost that these measures entail result from this political situation, in which relations between the United States and Nicaragua and the political treatment that the most reactionary U.S. Administration officials accord to the Central American region, and more specifically to relations with Nicaragua, have not changed.

Now, although it is true that these measures raise the economic, social, and material costs for our people, it is preferrable to raise this material costs than to lose the revolution, our homeland, and the possibilities of bringing about the national reconstruction that we are intent on achieving.

The situation of aggressiveness by the current U.S. Government, which has led to the present state of alert, can be summarized in the following manner: A warmongering and deceitful campaign was launched and has been maintained in the last few days among the American people in an effort to sway U.S. and international public opinion in favor of the various aggressive and interventionist plans against Nicaragua.

We must focus on the fact that this warmongering campaign became more intense during the U.S. election campaign. This irresponsible campaign ended in ridicule because its falseness became evident. [There are also] violations of the most elementary rules and principles of international law, such as those of free navigation among nations and the peoples' inalienable right to exercise their sovereignty over their territory, airspace, and territorial waters.

During these last few days we have also learned about the flagrant and open manner in which the United States has violated these elementary rules. In addition, during these last few days merchant vessels sailing along Nicaragua's Atlantic and Pacific coasts have been harassed by U.S. forces in order to prepare the conditions for establishing a virtual blockade of Nicaragua. [Other factors are] the aerial espionage and surveillance, which have been substantially expanded during these last few days and weeks through dozens of missions over our country's territory, in a bid to obtain more precise information on our country's defense mechanisms; the present maneuvers and unusual movement of forces and equipment in U.S. territory; the large-scale naval maneuvers in the Atlantic and Pacific, and in the Caribbean Sea, which are used by the most reactionary and warmongering circles as an overall base to underpin their intervention plans in the region; the increase in the threatening and flagrant presence of frigates, destroyers and other craft in our territorial water; the voluminous logistic stockpiling of supplies [apertrechamiento], particularly in Honduras -- that is, during the last few weeks the United States has been engaged in hectic, unusual activities aimed at introducing substantial quantities of logistical supplies into Honduras; the increase in the [number of] Yankee troops in neighboring countries; and the unusual fact that senior U.S. military officers have inspected the Nicaraguan border, where they have met with the heads of their mercenary forces, and most particularly Paul Gorman's visit to the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican border; the preparations for new military maneuvers to be held the last of this year and early next year, which will be larger than any other held in this area to date and which will be used like Trojan horses to conceal their intervention plans. All of these maneuvers and military deployments, which have been described by Pentagon and State Department officials as routine, have constituted outstanding coverups for the intervention plans they have been implementing, or developing, particularly this year.

Other important factors in this climate of aggression and intervention are the recent warlike speeches and statements by Secretary of State George Shultz and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. We cannot fail to mention, as part of the means used to bolster this aggressive framework, the open violation of our airspace with sophisticated SR-71 planes for the dual purpose of engaging in more precise espionage and exploration activities of our territory and intimidating our people through sonic booms produced by the planes as they break the sound barrier. [applause]

All these factors, among others, led our revolutionary government to decree the present state of national alert which we are experiencing and whose specific measures must be strengthened to better face this tense situation we are in because we have found no changes in the U.S. policy in the region and against Nicaragua.

We all know that maneuvers are being held in the Atlantic and Pacific, and in the Caribbean [words indistinct] to serve as an overall framework to support the policy of those who wish all this to end in direct intervention in the region and against Nicaragua in particular.

All through October and up until now, we have heard about the Unitas 25 Maneuvers; the 13 war games that took place in the Caribbean; the (Computec) maneuvers; the maneuvers being held in the Caribbean in conjunction with small islands such as Antigua, Dominica, and St Lucia, the (Flitex)-85 maneuvers in the Pacific; the land and air maneuvers, known as rapid deployment, that are currently being held in the continental United States; and, in Central America, the King's Guardian maneuvers in the Gulf of Fonseca; the Dragonfly II maneuvers scheduled for this month; the Big Pine III maneuvers, also scheduled to be held in Central America early next year; the land, air, and sea Grenadier II maneuvers, also scheduled to be held in the Central American area; and the "Freedom Torch" maneuver. And, as you can appreciate, there are more general maneuvers in the Pacific, Atlantic, and Caribbean besides those particularly aimed at the Central America area, the purpose of which is to conceal even more the activities through which they are creating the operational basis and conditions to step up their aggressive policy and intervention plans.

At this moment, no fewer than 2,500 U.S. Army troops and Marines are engaged in various activities in Honduras, working, for example, on all matters related to the radar station at El Tigre Island in Amapala and to managing the radar station at (Cerro del Hule), in Francisco Morazan Department. They are also engaged in other activities connected with the military training centers they have in Honduras, where Green Berets act as instructors and with the high priority work currently being done at the Palmerola Air Base... [Ortega changes thought] and the exploration and advance forces of the 82d Airborne Division that were recently stationed in Honduras.

The frigates "William Standley," "Silversides," "Wadsworth," and "Paul," and other craft, such as destroyers, are maintaining a line of surveillance and pressure off our coasts, in our Pacific waters. They are also active in the Atlantic sector, particularly against our country's commercial navigation through the port of El Bluff. Frigates, destroyers, and so on from Guantanamo base, of course, are also being used to exert pressure on our country, among other things.

In the practical sense, this state of alert is immediately directed toward strengthening the general preparedness of the country to face a possible direct intervention. In this regard, it is aimed at strengthening the plans that we have always prepared for Nicaragua's Pacific, and especially for our capital Managua, and at increasing the actions and blows that in the past few months, particularly in March and July of this year, our Army and Armed Forces have been inflicting on the first stage in the interventionist plan, which is the attack of mercenary counterrevolutionary forces.

In other words, with this action the state is allowing us to further guarantee the actions against the counterrevolutionary forces, which have forced us to remain on a state of emergency throughout these past few months. This state of alert also allows us to determine, perfect, and strengthen the various military and civil defense actions needed to repel and defeat a direct internvention if it occurs.

These are the practical and immediate objectives of the state of national alert we have implemented.

We have noted that defeating the armed counterrevolution and the mercenaries and expelling them to their bases in Honduras and Costa Rica will put us in a better position to gradually achieve peace and stability in our relations with the United States.

For this reason, at the same time that we continue to deal blows to the mercenary forces we must... [Ortega changes thought] however, the result of those who see the loss of their mercenary armed branch as a loss in their ability for political expression and for pressure on the Nicaraguan Government. [sentence as heard] Based on this loss, they promote a direct aggression, a product of these sectors that lead us to situations that could result in a direct intervention.

Therefore, at the same time that we continue to deal blows to the mercenary forces, especially in the country's mountains and borders, with this state of national alert, we must multiply the measures already existing for the defense of Nicaragua's Pacific in order to show those gentlemen who think that the region's problem can be resolved with a direct U.S. intervention that they are very wrong. If there is a situation of instability as a result of the current U.S. policy, then with a direct intervention this instability would become worse and would quickly spread not only to the Central American region, but to other parts of this complex world in which our revolution has evolved.

During the past 4 days, and in addition to this clearly interventionist situation which we have been facing, the United States has made efforts to weaken the mercenary forces that we have been hitting during this year. [Sentence as heard] These forces have tried unsuccessfully to make their presence felt in some areas. But imperialism's use of these mercenary forces could not prevent the people from holding their first free elections. So during the past few days these forces have been rapidly regrouping at their bases in Honduras. Imperialism's mercenary forces are again trying to attack our forces, but again these forces are coming up against our people's fists. Between 8 and 11 November alone, at Wiwili, El Jiquelite, El Bramadero, Quilali, and on Nicaragua's northern border with Honduras, Army troops as well as Marin, Santos Lopez, and German Pomares groups have inflicted dozens of dead and wounded on the counter-revolutionaries trying to aid in this interventionist action by the United States against our country. During these actions we have inflicted 82 dead and a considerable number of wounded on them. We also recovered arms, backpacks, and supplies that the imperialists have given these forces.

We want to point out to our people that this national sate of alert must be accepted, as usual, serenely and responsibly so as not to affect the various other tasks, both production-oriented and social, that our revolution has to face in the midst of this difficult situation. We have to maintain our revolutionary passion and, at the same time, act serenely and with responsibility. We must strengthen our fighting spirit and our military organization, but we must do so without letting our enemies carry out their diversionary tactics. Our enemies try to mock and worsen the situation, while at the same time they try to create panic in some sectors.

We are not afraid, but as leaders of the government we are concerned that our people have to face these situations. We have always said that we trust that reason will prevail over brute force and that we have to continue harvesting political and diplomatic victories. At no time, however, can we neglect military defense, because some sectors that have real influence in this situation of tension with the United States might inexplicably get the upper hand.

Therefore, the state of alert should serve to reinforce and support the government's political and diplomatic measures to ward off the threat of intervention by U.S. forces. To the extent that with every day that passes we strengthen the massive, large-scale military operation on the part of the people, the willingness to defend each of our cities brick by brick, house by house, and block by block.

We strengthen each of our roads, each of our towns, each piece of our territory; to the extent that we demonstrate every day that we Nicaraguans are prepared to die to achieve peace, to defend our fatherland, and to safeguard our revolution, to that extent we will be contributing to the revolutionary goverment's efforts to prevent the interventionist war and, logically, to continue winning the war that we are already enduring and that is the first phase of that interventionist war, a war that has already claimed thousands of victims from our country and our people.

In that regard, as a result of that situation that has tested the moral and patriotic strength of the entire nation, and particularly as a result of the call for a national alert, there has been an increased demand for the people to register in an organized manner to become involved, and I said in an organized manner, in various specific defense activities.

We will be working in the next few days to set up better conditions, particularly in Managua, the capital, for the registration of the new units that are being rapidly formed with the new people who will defend the fatherland. This process will be carried out at the headquarters of some of the militia battalions here in the capital. Later, this mass of fighters, consisting of women, men, laborers, students, children, and senior citizens, will become involved in the various defense tasks, some of which will be more directly related to the military situation, while others will directly support tasks to back up the military activities. These could be tasks such as protection [aseguramiento] of the civil defense troops, etc.

To end this statement, we wish to say that our revolutionary government cannot accept this possibility of a war waged by one country against another as something that the international community will consider to be normal. We cannot under any circumstances agree to a war waged by the United States against a Latin American country, in this case, Nicaragua. We will continue to alert the international public, particularly the U.S. people, so that this step will not be permitted or accepted.

Nicaragua has a right to defend itself and Nicaragua asserts its intention to continue to seek the moral, political, diplomatic, and military support that it has been requesting from the international community. I say to you that Nicaragua will not listen to even a threat of war from the United States, much less a war itself. We cannot allow some members of the present U.S. administration to impose on that administration a war in the Central American region. Of course, our decision and our determiniation are not enough. For that reason, although we will never accept that war, we are preparing and we are ready to face and defeat that crime against humanity in the event that it is committed.

Nicaragua, I repeat, condemns before the world the war threats and an eventual war. At the same time, Nicaragua does not accept and will never resign itself to the current permanent violations of our sovereignty by the U.S. Government. We cannot accept these violations of our territorial waters, of the navigation to our ports, or our airspace, as a fact. We cannot accept as a fact the waging of the first phase of a war against Nicaragua from Honduras and Costa Rica, which apparently some already consider and accept as routine. We will continue condemning these actions, and will continue denouncing as a very dangerous situation the continuation of the current war from Honduras and Costa Rica. We cannot continue to endure this situation.

Nicaragua believes that the reelection of Mr Reagan if his administration was being honest with the U.S. people when it promised to achieve stability in the region, when it said that it agrees with the Contador process, when it states that it truly wants peace... [does not complete sentence] Although there are no specific signs of change, Nicaragua hopes that the U.S. people will demand that the reelected government keeps the promises that it made as specific points of the program that led to that reelection.

We believe that only within the framework of Contadora, only through civilized communication between our governments, and our government has continued to make efforts despite this aggression and this threat of war, and this war that is being waged by the mercenaries. [sentence as heard] It has continued to participate in the Manzanillo talks and will continue to do so as long as necessary until it makes those who are presently uncomprehending realize that it is necessary for two countries, in this case the United States and Nicaragua, to coexist in peace, as they can and should, despite their differences.

In closing, we wish to state that our government, in an effort to face up to this serious situation, has continued, in a responsible manner, to make efforts to equip our Army with the appropriate means to adequately cope with the mercenary war that we are already facing, the permanent threat of intervention that we are experiencing, and the constant violations of our national sovereignty like those that have recently been carried out against our country.

Nicaragua, therefore, will not only continue to face up to that misguided policy with morale and a commitment to a free fatherland or death, but will also continue to seek the military support that its high morale requires in order to better face up to the dangers that we are facing and that have been imposed on us by the present U.S. Administration.

NUNEZ COMMENTS ON ELECTIONS, U.S. AREA ROLE

PA092337 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 8 Nov 84 p 5

[Text] The elections held on 4 November are a source of pride for Nicaragua, Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez, president of the State Council, said yesterday while commenting on the results of the general elections. He stressed the small percentage of absentions and attributed the 71,000 null votes reported to the parties that comprise the so-called Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN].

In the course of a news conference granted to European correspondents, the Nicaraguan leader also commented on Ronald Reagan's reelection in the United States. He said that the results of that election constitute a veritable threat to world peace. When asked his opinion about the State Department's use of the word "farce" to describe the Nicaraguan elections, he answered: "We should be the ones describing what happened in the United States as a farce, because what happened there, where 47 percent of the citizens abstained from voting, sets no example for democracy. Politicians like Reagan could not mobilize their people because they do not have the capibility to do so. However, since we are neither interested in interfering in their domestic policy, nor are we a colony, we will not insist on commenting on this."

However, the State Council president stressed that Nicaragua's case, it is apparently not only the Americans who interfere; "everyone wants to interfere and tell us what to do."

After stressing that the Nicaraguan elections have both defined and established the different nature of the various political forces -- the FSLN has consolidated its undisputable leadership of the revolutionary process, while the people have confirmed that they have not seen the solution offered by the ultraleft, and the right will not be able to claim hegemony -- Commander Nunez added that the United States will persist in its efforts to create a "democracy that responds to its interests."

He maintained that Nicaragua has elected its authorities for a 6-year period, like the electoral law establishes. When asked his view on the imperialist insinuation that another election should be held here in our country next year, Nunez answered that the United States will insist by all means available on creating a political model that is in accordance with its interests.

They want us to undergo a situation similar to that of Grenada, where elections will be held shortly, but at the expense of an invasion. In El Salvador, they point to Duarte today, but there the cost was an occupation. And in Honduras, where elections were also held, is it not a known fact that several armies -- the Honduran Army, the Yankees, the CIA mercenaries; and even the Salvadoran Army -- have occupied it and train there: None of those will be Nicaragua's case, he asserted.

Commander Nunez told the European correspondents that the government has information and reports on the probability of various attacks against Nicaragua. This has led to more air and naval espionage and greater aggressiveness on the part of the CIA mercenaries who attack through the north.

To back his assertion, he recalled that Jeane Kirkpatrick, the Yankee ambassador to the United Nations, commented before Reagan's reelection that "Nicaragua's case would be resolved 3 months after the elections."

The United States has mobilized the Army's 82d Division, the same which attacked Grenada, but although Washington is a military power and can come into Nicaragua, the problem is how they will get out, Nunez added.

In answer to another question about the role he ascribes to the CDN in the event of an invasion, Commander Nunez explained that if they manage to learn about it beforehand, "those who can abandon the country will do so; others will go into the embassies to wait for the Yankees to give power back to them. What they are not taking into consideration is the fact that imperialism is so cruel that it can sacrifice them because the Yankees do not care about civic opposition from inside. They are interested in those who are outside."

Nunez ascribed an important role to Europe's presence in Central America, asserting that "to the extent that it moves away, the United States will occupy the space it leaves behind and in that manner Europe would become partly responsible for the developments in Central America." According to him, the OAS has nothing to do because "it is sleeping the sleep of the just." He stressed that the risk of a regionalization [of the war] exists to the extent that the United States uses a neighboring country to launch an aggression, since then the revolutionaries in those countries would be faced with an occupation "and it would no longer be just a war against Nicaragua. But we will defend ourselves using even our fingernails, because it is up to us to defend ourselves," he stressed.

On the domestic front, Commander Nunez asserted that when Adan Fletes told foreign journalist that the FSLN was responsible for disrupting the Rio de Janeiro talks, he was not only consciously lying, but he was distorting the truth, because the FSLN held secret talks with the Social Christian Party [PSC] prior to the citizens' registration period.

"We became so flexible that we even viewed the PSC as an interlocutor, and [former Venezuelan Foreign Minister] Mr Aristides Calvani was a witness to this," he added. We are not to blame if the Social Christians sacrified themselves due to the abstentionism of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP].

The national dialogue will continue on Monday with the discussion of the agenda, but it will be held in accordance with the results of the elections. Nunez said that he has been contacted by two of the registered political parties, which have talked to the FSLN about the suitability of continuing or discontinuing the dialogue.

The Sandinist leader denied the possibility that the national dialogue might become a parallel development to the National Constituent Assembly.

The elections have clearly established a difference among the various existing forces and we (the FSLN) will hear all views in order to find solutions.

It cannot be forgotten that the National Constituent Assembly we have elected is sovereign and will approve a political constitution that must be endorsed by the masses.

Nunez added that it looks like the FSLN will obtain 73 of the 90 parliamentary seats; at least 56 of which were already ensured at noon yesterday, according to the electoral returns.

The State Council president compared the Central American situation in the wake of Reagan's reelection to "a mined field," because firm and accurate decisions must be made, as we do not want a war with the United States. Any mistake might lead to disaster, he stressed.

REPORTAGE ON THIRD NATIONAL DIALOGUE SESSION

Right-wing Sector Intransigent

PA140420 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Text] Today the third session of the national dialogue took place. The right-wing parties demonstrated very little seriousness in their statements and attitudes. During this session, at which social, political, and economic forces in the country participated, the parties of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Coordinating Board, the Independent Liberal Party [PLI], the Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP], and the Episcopal Conference, presented a confused, undecided, and uninterested attitude toward contributing to the solution of the different problems of national life. They also firmly opposed the discussion of the defense problem as the first point on the agenda, which was introduced by the Communist Party of Nicaragua and the Revolutionary Workers Party.

The right-wing also refused to sign a communique rejecting the U.S. imperialist aggression and seeking a negotiated solution to the current crisis in Central America, particularly in Nicaragua. Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez spoke of the result of this third session of the national dialogue.

[Begin recording] We have come here disposed to listen to the different opinions, and to respect and ultimately put into practice the recommendations and agreements that are made, but we have found a most intransigent position in the ultraright-wing sectors of the country. It is evident that all they want to discuss is the removal of the Sandinist government and not the dramatic situation the Nicaraguan people are facing at this time. Therefore, according to the consensus presented by the other parties, what we have to discuss at future meetings is the restatement of the national dialoque because the regulations have been flagrantly violated by the COSEP; they have been flagrantly violated by the Social Christian Party, and so we will have to study what we are our goals in holding this national dialogue.

The FSLN at least, has already established what it understands by a national dialogue and its goals, but it has not found a similar attitude among the Nicaraguan right-wing organizations.

Communist Party Predicts Failure

PA140257 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Text] The panorama of the national dialogue is not very good, said Eli Altamirano, secretary of the Communist Party of Nicaragua, to this station. Several parties of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board did not attend yesterday's session of the national dialogue.

Four of the organizations that participated in the dialogue did not sign the agreement to send messages to Reagan and the world asking that the attacks on Nicaragua be stopped. The national dialogue will continue on Friday afternoon with whoever shows up, because of the 30 plus organizations that attended the first two sessions, several have withdrawn. We will now listen to Eli Altamirano's analysis of the perspectives of the national dialogue.

[Begin recording] [Altamirano] At yesterday's session of the national dialogue the panorama was not very encouraging. The Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] withdrew on its own, the Constitutionalist Liberal Movement and the Social Democratic Party did not attend the meeting, and the Conservative Party of Nicaragua, which had asked to participate and was finally granted observer rights, did not attend the meeting. Meanwhile, those attending as members of the Coordinating Board, such as the Social Christian Party, the Nicaraguan Workers Federation [CTN], and the Confederation for the Unity of Trade Unions [CUS] sustained uncooperative attitudes to the extreme point of refusing to make any political commitments whatever with any of the parties involved or with the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. As a result of what happened at yesterday's meeting, of what can be observed, there is no reason to be optimistic about the national dialogue. To the contrary, everything points to the fact that advancements have not been made. For this we blame the parties of the Coordinating Board, because a point has not been found where advancements can be made, and we think that at this time many efforts will have to be made for the dialogue to continue. However, these efforts will have to be supported by a sincere attitude on the part of the parties in the Coordinating Board. Otherwise, we do not see how we can speak optimistically about the dialogue. Our intentions are objective, they have nothing to do with sentimentalism. This is the opinion of a pragmatist who is not mistaken, who views things in a realistic manner. We face reality, and we act upon this basis. These are our opinions of the dialogue as a result of the incidents that took place yesterday.

[Reporter] What are the expectations of the national dialogue now that the parties in the Coordinating Board and the organizations of the public and private sector have withdrawn?

[Altamirano] Undoubtedly they are minimal, as I said initially. They are minimal because their absence is not simply an absence that could be described as a delay that prevented their attending. Theirs is an absence of withdrawal. This means that they have abandoned the dialogue and the [words indistinct]. They refuse to participate although their participation would improve the dialogue. The perspectives are not encouraging.

[Question indistinct]

[Altamirano] Those who could withdraw [word indistinct] but so far no fundamental agreements have been made.

[Reporter] Do you think this could be the end of the national dialogue?

[Altamirano] Yes, I think so.

Church Leaders, Others Comment

PA131629 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The efforts to prevent a U.S. invasion became obvious yesterday during the fourth round of a national dialogue, during with the country's patriotic sectors discussed and approved a document demanding the immediate suspension of U.S. aggression against Nicaragua.

This occurred even as the country has become a huge combat trench in order to defend itself. The meeting lasted 7 hours, during which it become clear who are in favor of peace and who are trying to dismiss the danger of an imminent invasion. Patriotic views were expressed, for instance, by Jose Espinosa Navas, leader of the Federation for Unity of Trade union [CUS], and vice president of the Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN] who said:

[Begin recording] [Espinosa Navas] We are members of civilian organizations and we will do everything needed to continue with the dialogue. What we are stressing and making very clear, however, is that we want our views respected, as we are well-meaning and patriotic Nicaraguans who are seeking a balance among certain extreme positions represented here in the dialogue.

[First reporter] What is your view on aggression?

[Espinosa Navas] Our view is that of all Nicaraguans. We reject any attack on our country's sovereignty.

[Second reporter] In the event of an aggression, what would CUS instruct its rank and file to do?

[Espinosa Navas] That would have to be decided at a meeting of the Executive Committee. My personal impression, as a person familiar with the inside story at CUS, is that we would reject an aggression and that we would take our right place in defense of our sovereignty.

[First reporter] Would you take up weapons to participate in the defense?

[Expinosa Navas] That might be the case. We have already done that in the past and we might do it again. Why not? We are patriots, we are individuals, we are Nicaraguans like everyone else, and if that is what it takes to defend our sovereignty, then we shall do it. [end recording]

For his part, Virgilio Godoy abandoned the dialogue shortly before noon, alleging that he was leaving for health reasons and that he would be replaced by another member of the Independent Liberal Party [PLI]. However, this did not happen, and the document condemning the aggression was signed without the presence of the PLI.

Meanwhile, the Nicaraguan Socialist Party [PSN] reiterated its stance on the danger hovering over Nicaragua and our country's right to acquire all the means available for its defense. [PSN leader] Luis Sanchez Sancho commented:

[Begin Sanchez Sancho recording] A number of provisions adopted by the United Nations in the course of the history of that international organization establishes as part of the inalienable rights of all peoples -- especially those in small countries -- the right to resort to whatever means are deemed necessary, including the request for collective coordinated actions, if they are unjustly attacked by a foreign power or a group of countries. So this need not even be discussed. What is being discussed now is the pretext wielded by the U.S. Government because it has no real grounds to continue its aggression and warmongering provocations. According to the National Reconstruction Government's reports, the U.S. is creating a pretext in order to legitimize the continuation of its aggressions. But the inalienable and unrenounceable right of all peoples and countries to arm in order to defend themselves -- and I repeat that this has already been set forth -- is a part of international law and is the norm that should really regulate all countries so that there can be true international coexistence.

In the event of a mass invasion by the U.S. Government, I think that, as Commander Borge has said, everyone here would have to be called into action. [end recording]

Almost 5 hours after the dialogue had begun, Msgr Pablo Antonio Vega, president of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference, abandoned the meeting. He was pursued by a large number of journalists who were covering the event. After being pursued all the way to his car, Msgr Vega evasively answered the newsmen's numerous questions.

[Begin recording] [First reporter] What is your view as a member of the Church?

[Vega] Those are political options and we do not wish to get involved.

[Second reporter] Will you abstain from commenting on this...?

[Vega] No, we are not abstaining, but for reasons of principle we let the parties choose their own options.

[First reporter] But what about this case, in which the people are being attacked?

[Vega] We have our part in this, but our views are different than those of the political parties.

[First reporter] But what would you tell the faithful?

[Vega] Oh, the faithful? That for us, the first thing is to be more aware of our people's worth instead of going around begging for things abroad, least of all weapons.

[Third reporter] Msgr, you said there were worse dangers than an intervention. What would these be?

[Vega] Oh, yes, sure, sure.

[Third reporter] Which, for instance? What danger?

[Vega] The responsibility of those journalists who are inciting war is as grave as that of anyone else acting in this manner. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the Social Christian Party [PSC] sought to introduce a document into the national dialogue setting forth its views on the country's dangerous situation which justifies the criminal aggression. This maneuver was rejected by a majority of the participants at the meeting. At some point, FSLN delegate Commander Carlos Nunez termed the stances adopted by those sectors that chose to abandon the national dialogue as unpatriotic. Concerning the PSC document, Commander Nunez said that it is part of the party's tactic for breaking away or withdrawing in order to avoid condemning the aggression against Nicaragua.

BRIEFS

MEDICINE FROM MEXICO -- Members of the Christian Conference for Peace in Central America and the Caribbean donated 600 lbs of medicine to the Nicaraguan Peace Committee today. Virginia Baena, a clergywoman who is a representative of the Ecumenical Movement in Managua, delivered the medicine. Baena said that a group of Christian Conference members will go to Managua on 22 December to deliver more medicine. [Summary] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 13 Nov 84 PA]

GRANMA REPORTS DETAILS OF ACCORD ON ANGOLA

PA160344 Paris AFP in Spanish 2028 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Havana, 15 Nov (AFP) -- The newspaper GRANMA, official PCC organ, reported today that the Angolan Government has proposed that a four-part agreement be signed by Angola, Cuba, South Africa, and the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO], as a prior condition for the gradual withdrawal of Cuban troops from southern Angola.

According to GRANMA, this treaty would have to be signed within the framework of the UN Security Council. The newspaper cited "sources close to the Angolan delegation" that participated in the OAU meeting in Addis Ababa.

The paper added that in a closed-door session during the 20th OAU summit, Angolan President Eduardo Dos Santos revealed the outlines of his program for the "independence, security, and peace of South-West Africa" which was recently presented to the U.S. Government. The program comprises four main points:

1. Withdrawal of South African troops from southern Angola.

2. Suspension of foreign aid to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], a movement that is struggling against the government in Luanda, and the dismantling of its bases in Namibia.

3. Application of UN Security Council Resolution 435 on the independence of Namibia.

4. Gradual withdrawal of certain international troops deployed in southern Angola.

According to GRANMA, President Dos Santos said that the withdrawal of the Cuban troops could begin after UN troops were deployed in Namibia and after South African forces in Namibia were reduced to a maximum of 1,500 men.

President Dos Santos said that this program is evidence that his government has adopted new diplomatic initiatives that reflect "greater flexibility" than the previous conditions set for the withdrawal of the Cuban troops.

Those conditions were outlined in joint Angola-Cuba declarations issued in February 1982 and again in March 1984, during President Dos Santos' visit to Cuba, but were vague about the gradual withdrawal of some 25,000 Cuban soldiers from Angola.

President Dos Santos' new initiative has received "Cuba's total support," according to GRANMA, which again cited sources close to the Angolan delegation at the OAU.

The newspaper accorded great importance to the new Angolan diplomatic initiative by announcing the Luanda government plan on the front page and devoting the major part of the last page to the four-part agreement.

Experts note, however, that GRANMA established no links between the plan and the agreement. In any case, it would seem that the agreement among Cuba, Angola, South Africa, and SWAPO is to be based on President Dos Santos' program and then ratified by the UN Security Council.

NYERERE DISCUSSES ANGOLA ISSUE AT OAU SUMMIT

FL160228 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Tanzanian leader Julius Nyerere has stated that the OAU summit meeting has unanimously rejected linking Namibia's independence to a prior or parallel withdrawal of Cuban internationalist troops from Angola -- troops sent to Angola at the request of that country's sovereign government.

Such statements by Nyerere and the decision of the African heads of state constitute solid support for the platform presented by Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos for an international agreement guaranteeing the independence, security, and peace for southwestern Africa, Namibia and Angola.

In that platform, Angola demands from the United States and South Africa the withdrawal of racist troops from southern Angola and Namibia, the application of Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council, and the cessation of all foreign aid to UNITA and other puppet organizations.

This would make it possible to change the current climate of tension, aggression, and war, which prevails in that region and, as a consequence, make it possible to proceed to the gradual withdrawal the Cuban troops from southern Angola.

CASTRO HAILS ORTEGA ELECTION VICTORY

PA152244 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Nov 84 p 4

[Message of congratulations from President Fidel Castro to Nicaraguan President-elect Daniel Ortega Saavedra; date not given]

[Text] Dear Companero: On behalf of our party, our government, and our people, I wish to send you our most sincere and warm congratulations for your election by the Nicaraguan people as president of that sister republic.

For the first time in many years, the noble and heroic people of Sandino have had the opportunity to participate in elections in which it was possible to express their democratic will. The strong support that you and Companero Sergio Ramirez have received as representatives of the FSLN and vanguard of the Nicaraguan revolution represents undeniable proof of the Nicaraguan people's will.

With this, the people's trust in the Sandinist revolution, the democratic organizations it has created, and those who represent the revolution have been confirmed. The enthusiastic and firm response of workers, peasants, and students -- reported by all the news media and which the whole world was able to see -- represents irrefutable proof of the strictly legal character of the electoral process and the scrupulous honesty with which the FSLN handled it. The admirable example given by the Nicaraguan people when they participated in these elections, amid the military aggressions and political and economic pressures of all kind exerted by the U.S. imperialism and its instruments against the Sandinist revolution, is worthy of praise.

The Nicaraguan reality, the tangible proof ascertained by more than 1,000 observers from different political ideologies, parties, and organizations throughout the world, should be enough to silence U.S. imperialism's spokesman, who are bent on concealing or tarnishing this undeniable truth. No election has ever drawn so many foreign journalists and international observers as witnesses of its seriousness and integrity.

Therefore, we consider the 4 November elections a great victory of the Sandinist revolution, within Nicaragua and abroad. The Nicaraguan elections saw the participation of 57 percent more voters than in the U.S. elections of 6 November, and the Sandinist candidacy received a larger percentage of votes than Reagan did.

The overwhelming support that you and the FSLN have received must be a serious warning to those who are trying to counter, through a militaryy aggression, the process of economic, organizational, and politcal changes that Nicaragua is carrying out. The support of the Nicaraguan masses will allow their genuine representatives to continue on the firm road to rebuild the devastated nation and advance in building a new Nicaragua.

We renew on this joyous and victorious occasion the unwavering solidarity of the Cuban revolution, and, while congratulating you on your victory, I send my fraternal embrace.

Fidel Castro Ruz

COMMENTARY NOTES U.S. 'THREAT' AGAINST NICARAGUA

FL151536 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The threat of a direct U.S. attack on Nicaragua has intensified in the last few hours. In this regard, observers warn that at this moment seven U.S. military maneuvers are being carried out near the Nicaraguan border.

After the hypocritical campaign against the delivery of Soviet-built MIG aircraft to Nicaragua, Washington is now cranking up another crisis on the supposed routing to Nicaragua of a convoy of Soviet merchant ships with military supplies. These new accusations, which are an attempt to justify aggression, were aired immediately after Reagan administration spokesmen falsely accused Nicaragua of preparing to attack neighboring Central American nations. Some press correspondents consider that one of the first options of the Yankee plans for aggression is a sea blockade of Nicaragua.

A high U.S. official has reported with bad intentions that the USSR is trying to establish a permanent military presence in Nicaragua. Otto Reich, a high government officer whose name sounds as if it were taken from the Gestapo, cynically said Soviet military personnel in Nicaragua now number from 2,500 to 3,000 men.

Without a doubt, this is a perfectly coordinated campaign of the Reagan administration to crush the Sandinist revolution by force of arms.

COMMENTARY DECRIES U.S. AID TO GUATEMALA

PA150456 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 14 Nov 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Bent on deposing the Sandinist revolution, destroying the Salvadoran insurrection, hampering the Contadora Group's efforts to negotiate, and reinforcing its imperialist presence in the area, Washington supports Central American genocidal regimes unashamedly.

After U.S. military aid to various Guatemalan military regimes had been suspended for 8 years, in an effort to make others believe that the White House is really concerned about the defense of human rights, the Ronald Reagan government has now again decided to deliver large sums of money to the murderers who hold power illegally in this Central American nation. The first installment of thousands of dollars of the $6.3 million Washington will deliver to the Guatemalan regime during the remaining part of 1984 is already in the hands of the sponsors of the Guatemalan genocide and their death squads. This sum is Washington's contribution to the burning villages, tearing apart of children, and massacring of peasants that Guatemalan repressive forces like to carry out.

Paul Taylor, an official of the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala City, has told the local press that this first installment will be used to train Guatemalan officers at U.S. military bases. In exchange for this kind action, the Guatemalan regime rejected the Contadora Group's draft for peace in Central America, which had been immediately accepted by Sandinist authorities. The Guatemalan regime was expressing opposition to the region's stability, in agreement with the pro-imperialist acolytes of El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica.

(Lowth Amaberry) and Anthony Lloyd, two UK parliamentarians from the Liberal and Labor Parties who visited Guatemala for 5 days, discussed the criminal nature of the Guatemalan Armed Forces. The two asserted that government troops act as an occupying army and have turned the country into a nation of widows and orphans. The parliamentarians, who are members of a UK human rights legislative group, expressed their rejection of a possible resumption of relations between their country and Guatemala and opposed the EEC's financial assistance to the military regime.

Guatemala has been labeled by international organizations as one of the countries in the world with the most human rights violations. Guatemala's military relations with the United States have been growing stronger. For instance, representatives of the Inter-American Defense Board, controlled by Washington, arrived in Guatemala in October to meet with Guatemalan Army officers. According to an official communique, the purpose of this visit was to establish an exchange of experiences for future cooperation in the defense of the Central American region against presumed foreign aggressions.

Of course to the White House and its associates, the so-called foreign aggression is the just rebellion of peoples rejecting the misery and repression to which they have been subjected for decades. Although the regime has claimed that Guatemalan rebels are under our control, this assertion has been belied even by government spokesmen, who are unable to conceal the rebel movement's growing success. Colonel Jose Luis Diaz Munoz, chief of Quetzaltenango Department Military Zone, was forced to admit a few weeks ago that guerrillas are extremely active in the region and that the 1,000 men at his command are engaged in counterinsurgency operations.

Thus, Guatemala's explosive situation clearly shows both the regime's inability to crush the growing people's rebellion and its surrender to Washington's interventionist policy. In exchange for this submission, Ronald Reagan sends the Guatemalan military high command arms and supplies with which to murder more defenseless citizens.

U.S. 'SPY PLANE' VIOLATES NICARAGUA AIRSPACE

PA141553 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Nov 84

[Report from Luis Cabrera, PRELA correspondent in Managua -- recorded]

[Text] Once again the U.S. SR-71 spy plane, known as the Blackbird, has carried out espionage activities and violated Nicaragua's airspace. La Voz de Nicaragua, the official station of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has received phone calls from various parts of the country where people reported they had heard the blasts that this plane makes as it breaks the sound barrier. It must be noted that at about the same time on Thursday, the U.S. spy plane again violated Nicaragua's airspace. This means that, this super sophisticated plane used by the U.S. Administration has violated Nicaragua's airspace three times in a just a few days. The revolutionary leaders have noted that the U.S. Administration has used this kind of spy plane to conduct espionage activities only in extremely important crises, so it must be assumed that a direct aggression against Nicaragua is being prepared.

Moreover, the U.S. spy plane has elicited a very special feeling among the Nicaraguan people because if at first there was some concern, the people are now determined to defend Nicaragua and they are no longer worried about the Blackbird's presence, which several people in Nicaragua have said they have grown used to.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has sent a protest to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in connection with the new airspace violations by the U.S. spy plane. The note has not been answered by the U.S. secretary of state. As Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman has indicated, it is not just a matter of lack of time, but rather that the U.S. secretary of state does not deign to answer Nicaragua's protect notes.

REAGAN SEEKS MORE 'ANTI-SANDINST' FUNDS

PA141509 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Nov 84

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has signed a law to increase CIA funds and explained that he will pressure Congress into increasing the financial aid to anti-Sandinist groups. In the previous fiscal year the U.S. Congress approved $24 million for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries but refused to continue the aid requested by the president.

COUNCIL OF MINISTER APPROVES HOUSING LAW

FL051352 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] The Council of Minister's Executive Committee has approved a projected general law on housing, which will be presented at the next regular session of the National Assembly. The projected law stipulates that those who are currently paying housing rent will acquire the property on 1 July, 1985, through a buy-sell [compra y venta] contract which will be signed with the People's Savings Bank [Banco Popular de Ahorro].

The people will continue making amortized payments, equal to the previous legal rent, which will be equivalent to paying rent for 20 years. The rent which had been payed over the years will be recognized, although a minimum period will be established which varies from 5 years for houses built up to 1940, and 13 years for those houses built between 1971 and the present.

The law would also legalize the situation of certain families who have an assigned house, but are not paying rent for various reasons. In these cases they will also receive the property on 1 July 1985, amortizing the price over 15 years. Real estate will not be transferred in the case of rooms and other locations without services, houses beyond repair, those built with cast-off material, those which do not meet health requirements, and those occupied by persons receiving social assistance. In all of these cases free rent will continue.

Houses which the state will assign as of 1 January, 1985 will be sold to the people as property and the price will be amortized over 15 to 20 years, regardless of whether it is a house or an apartment. In all cases the monthly payments will be through payroll deductions or any type of periodic payments by the occupants.

The projected housing law, approved by the Council of Minister's Executive Committee, and to be presented at the National Assembly's next regular session, will stimulate construction of new houses, and will permit property holders to rent rooms for a period between one week and six months. Today's GRANMA edition offers detailed information on this matter of much interest to the people.

R. CASTRO INSPECTS DEFENSE PREPARATIONS

FL131318 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Text] In 3 days, the population of Sancti Spiritus, Villa Clara, and Cienfuegos Provinces has reinforced in all of us the unlimited confidence we have in our people and our belief in a definitive victory over the enemy if he dares attack us. These words were spoken by Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the party and FAR minister, in summation of the visit he paid these three provinces starting last Saturday to check their defense preparedness.

During his visit, Raul was accompanied by members and alternate members of the Politburo and Secretariat, Central Committee members, government ministers, members of the defense councils, and generals and officers of the FAR and Interior Ministry.

Raul Castro and those accompanying him checked the progress of the government organizations in general and the preparation and combat readiness of the Territorial Troops Militia [MTT], defense zones, and the population. On numerous occasions during his visit, the FAR minister provided the finishing touch for important matters and praised the creative powers of the masses, describing them as an inexhaustible source of initiatives that provide practical solutions to complex problems with the use of local resources.

In summation, Raul reiterated remarks he had made during the operations he observed and restated important principles of Cuban military doctrine. He also advised the adoption of measures aimed at guaranteeing the best conditions for the first National Defense Day, on 2 December, in commemoration of the 28th anniversary of the Granma landing. Army General Raul Castro congratulated the first secretaries of the party and presidents of the Defense Councils of Sancti Spiritus, Villa Clara, and Cienfuegos, and all the others who in one way or another contributed to the success of the exercises and to the progress made in defense preparedness.

ESPIN CHAIRS WOMEN'S FEDERATION PLENUM

FL141622 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Text] The eighth plenum of the National Committee of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC] has been held at FAR headquarters. Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Politburo and FMC president, presided at the meeting.

At the meeting, which lasted 2 days, the results of the assembly meetings from the grass roots to the provincial level were discussed; the assembly meetings were held to prepare for the fourth FMC Congress, to be held in March 1985. At the plenum, Vilma Espin stressed the quality of the debates and the participation of the members in the evaluation of personnel and employment policies.

VALDES: YOUTHS FREE OF ALCOHOLISM, DRUGS

FL031650 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] We belong with those who, like Fidel, believe that we have youths who are healthy, revolutionary, studious, full of vigor for work and combat, and willing to do what is necessary without vacillation for any brother country, said Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes, Politburo member and minister of interior, on closing the Havana-held second national conference on social awareness. Vilma Espin, alternate Politburo member and FMS president also attended the meeting. We have, said Ramiro Valdes, a youth population free of alcoholism, drugs, prostitution, and vices, and trained from the earliest age in love for the nation and socialism.